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Wednesday, March 28, 2012

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continued on back

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1. McKinsey & Co, 2011
2. Canadian Institute for Health Information, 2011
3. Statistics Canada, 2012. US Bureau of Labour, 2012.

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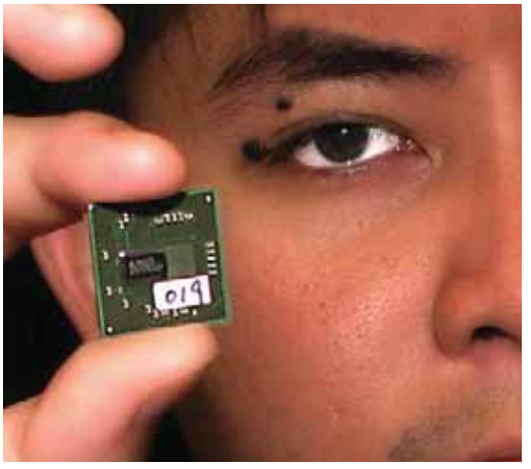

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The next time you admire the eye-popping graphics of your game console, computer or cell phone, think of **Yaosan Yeo**.

He designs the tiny silicon wafers, commonly referred to as chips, that help breathe colourful life into these and many other electronics devices.

It's all part of his job as an analog designer for AMD, one of the largest graphic chip makers in the world.

Companies like AMD are looking for technically skilled employees who can create the next generation of high performance chips and Seneca is one of the few colleges in Canada offering this type of training.

Yaosan learned the intricacies of chip design as a student in Seneca's Applied Electronics Design program, a one-year Ontario College Graduate Certificate that trains students in all aspects of electronics design.

As part of their training, students complete a four month co-op placement where they are given the opportunity to gain real-world experience. Yaosan completed his co-op at AMD, which led to an immediate job offer from the company.

"Yaosan had all the skill sets we look for in our chip designers," says Martin Koolhaas, Analog Design Engineer for AMD. "He is a very good problem solver, communicator and technically strong."

Seneca's Applied Electronics Design program is intended for both new graduates of courses in electronics technology and those with industry experience in engineering or technology.

One of the program's many benefits is its industry connections, which include a long-standing partnership with AMD.

"I love what I'm doing at AMD," says Yaosan. "With each project I work on I hope to get more experience and work my way up to bigger opportunities in the future."

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BILLY ZANE HOPES TITANIC 3D WILL HELP 'LEO-MANIACS' SEE HIS CHARACTER THROUGH A DIFFERENT LENS PAGE 23

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Finding a balance

Provincial budget. Liberals are warning they will use legislation to force a pay freeze on teachers, doctors and civil servants

Cash-strapped Ontario is putting off business-tax cuts, taking aim at pensions, and vowing to legislate pay freezes for public-sector workers if need be in an austerity budget designed to lift Canada's former economic powerhouse out of the red ink in five years.

The minority Liberals are walking a political and fiscal tightrope with a massive 304-page budget plan, which must appease credit agencies, the wider business community, and at least one of the opposition parties to avoid triggering an election.

"This is a strong plan that gets us back to balance in (five years) and, I'm quite confident, meets the needs of markets and meets the needs of all Ontarians," Finance Minister Dwight Duncan said Tuesday.

Saddled with a $15.3-billion deficit this year, the Liberals plan to make cuts and reduce spending to save $17.7 billion over three years while increasing revenue by $4.4 billion — without hiking taxes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Money on tap

Why the government's banking on your liquor consumption — and four other things you need to know about the budget, on page 8.

Ontario Finance Minister Dwight Duncan, left, and Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty enter the legislature before delivering the 2012 Ontario budget at Queen's Park on Tuesday. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rafferty was 'so stressed'

Accused killer in Tori Stafford slaying looked haggard and was taking painkillers in the days after the girl disappeared, court hears PAGE 12

Yacht probed for smuggling

People saved in a search-and-rescue operation on the Atlantic are claiming refugee status — Vic Toews says human smuggling is suspected PAGE 14

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1 NEWS

On the mobile

Age may creep up on man, but his best friend gets there at warp speed. The American Veterinary Medical Association holds that cats and small dogs are geriatric at seven — and large dogs at six. Scan for the story.

On the web

These beetles have some bling

Live beetles covered in jewelry are all the rage in Mexico and are part of a centuries-old tradition. But as the live jewelry gains popularity, not all fashionistas and environmentalists are on the same page. Watch at metronews.ca/video

Family devastated after laptop with photos of dead son stolen

A Clarington family is reeling after a laptop containing irreplaceable photos of their dead son was stolen during a break-in.

"It's five years worth of precious memories that we'll never get back," Michelle Courville, 40, said of the images of their son, Thomas, who died at Sick Kids Hospital in 2008, shortly before his sixth birthday.

"For us, having lost him physically four years ago and now we've lost him again, it feels like to me, it's just heartbreaking," said the Grade 4 teacher who came home from work Monday to a kicked in door and the mess of the break-in.

The laptop was one of two stolen early Monday after thieves forced their way into the Courvilles' home on Beckett Cres. in Courtice.

Other than the ones on her cellphone and a few on the walls of their home, those on the laptop were all Michelle and husband Ed had of their youngest son, who was born with a genetic disorder that left him blind and deaf. He was also disabled and used a wheelchair.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

If you know...

Anyone with information that might assist in the return of the hard drive or any of the other items stolen is asked to contact Staff Sgt. Robert Elliott of Durham Regional Police at 1-888-579-1520 ext. 1736.

Michelle Courville and her sons, Thomas and Benjamin. CONTRIBUTED

Justice sought for man gunned down

Trial. Case of accused killer goes to the jury

Kenneth Mark was an easy target for an assassin's bullet.

The 30-year-old lived above a small bakery on St. Clair Ave. W., across the street from the housing project where he grew up with his mother and seven brothers and sisters.

He was easy to spot, a towering 6-foot-4, 307 pounds.

And he was a man of routine. Several times a week he stopped at his favourite pizza and wings shop for takeout, en route to work the night shift supervisor's job at a nearby Walmart.

At about 9:45 p.m. on Dec. 29, 2009, Mark was gunned down while walking on Gilmour Ave., near Dundas St. W., carrying his chicken wing dinner in a paper bag.

The case against the man accused of killing Mark went to the jury Tuesday after an eight-week trial, which heard arguments that the "gentle giant" was targeted because he violated a code of silence, a no-snitching ethos that exists in many Toronto neighbourhoods.

The tragedy of Kenneth Mark really began in 2008, when he confronted a young man about waving a gun in front of kids at the St. Clair public housing complex.

On Sept. 2 of that year, Mark was hit in the back with a blast of buckshot fired from a shotgun.

While Mark didn't tell police immediately, he eventually identified the shooter as the same young man — he cannot be named under the Youth Criminal Justice Act — who had earlier been waving a gun.

Quotable

"He feared for his life. On Dec. 29, 2009, Kenneth Mark's fears came true."

Crown Attorney Mary Humphrey

Kenneth Mark was shot and killed as he walked to work from a local takeout restaurant. HANDOUT

Mark said the boy's brother, Lamar Skeete, had also been there when he was shot.

The Crown eventually withdrew an attempted murder charge against Skeete. His brother was acquitted of the same charge, after Mark testified at the trial.

Twelve days later, Mark was killed by a single bullet fired into the back of his head.

Prosecutors alleged Skeete, a cocky 21-year-old rapper who lived nearby and knew Mark since he was 7, either fired the fatal shot or enlisted someone else to do it. Another accused, whose identity is protected under the Youth Criminal Justice Act, still faces a first-degree murder charge.

The code of silence, the Crown's motive in this case, exists among those who protect their own from the law. The Mafia calls it "omerta," but there is also the "blue code" or "blue wall" that can sometimes shield police officers accused of corruption or misconduct.

In many of the tougher neighbourhoods in Toronto and elsewhere, the stigma of snitching is ingrained at an early age.

"The guy who did the informing ... he is so disrespected, nobody is going to stand up for him in the community, especially if it's a Toronto housing community," says a community worker not involved in the Mark case.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

G20 trial

'Geek' sought help, court hears

Byron Sonne, the so-called "G20 geek" sought help creating something that would "provoke the government and security forces" into a response that would "blow up in their face later," his trial on explosives charges heard Tuesday.

The 39-year-old Forest Hill computer consultant who was arrested prior to the G20 summit and charged with four counts of possessing explosive devices, and one of inciting others to commit an indictable offence, won't be called to the stand, his lawyers say.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Homicide

Suspect will be held in custody

Accused murderer Anthony Yim was ordered held in custody until his next court appearance April 5 in North York.

Yim is charged with second-degree murder in the death of 60-year-old Linda Thomas, the year's 10th homicide.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Murder trial

Defendant won't take the stand

Accused schoolgirl killer Rafal LaSota has decided not to take the witness stand to defend himself against charges he murdered 13-year-old Aleksandra Firgan-Hewie in his Mississauga bedroom.

The decision by LaSota, 28, means the jury will likely begin deliberations Friday on his fate and that of his former fiancée, Michelle Liard, 22.

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Brothels soon in your backyard?

Bawdy houses. What regulating indoor sex work would mean for Toronto neighbourhoods

Legal brothels in Toronto are at least a year away, if they arrive at all. Monday's Ontario Court of Appeal ruling that decriminalized bawdy houses won't come into effect until 2013, or later in the likely case the matter goes to the Supreme Court.

But that hasn't stopped residents from wondering where licensed brothels might go.

Seeing red

The best-known way to regulate brothels is instituting a legal red-light district like Amsterdam's. Coun. Giorgio Mammoliti, who last year suggested setting one up on the Toronto Islands, noted that the ideal location would be somewhere out of the way, suggesting the city look at industrial parks.

Any number of sites that fit that bill dot the GTA, including the chameleonic Port Lands, which was also bandied about as a possible location for a future casino. The further from pre-existing neighbourhoods, the better to placate enraged residents.

Quoted

"The red-light district on Toronto Island is unworkable — the demand for sex doesn't stop at the 5 o'clock ferry."

Tim Lambrinos, executive director, Adult Entertainment Association of Canada

Stripped away

Tim Lambrinos, executive director of the Adult Entertainment Association of Canada, suggested to the city a year ago to simply allow strip clubs to apply to add a brothel — they're already licensed for erotic services.

Strip clubs have a strong incentive to play by the rules, he said, because they've invested so much in complying with regulations. (A strip club licence costs thousands of dollars).

Mixed-use neighbourhood?

Worried about a brothel setting up shop on your treelined street? Don't be. You probably already got one and haven't noticed, says Valerie Scott of Sex Professionals of Canada.

"There have been brothels in practically every condo and apartment building in Toronto.… People have no idea they exist, we are so discreet," said the 53-year-old former prostitute.

If the bawdy-house law stands, five-storey monstrosities with people fornicating on the lawn won't follow, said Scott, adding that with zoning, loitering and harassment laws, a joint like that "would be shut down in a minute."

Mostly, brothels would be peppered across the city because red-light districts breed organized crime and ghettoize sex workers.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Residents have started wondering where licensed brothels, like the Chicken Ranch brothel in Pahrump, Nev., pictured, might go once an Ontario Court of Appeal ruling decriminalizing bawdy houses comes into effect.

JAE C. HONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mayor's public call

Complaint called 'sour grapes'

A city councillor's complaint that Mayor Rob Ford shouldn't be telling potential candidates for council to call his office has been dismissed as sour grapes.

Ford, as he has his entire council career, is publicly encouraging like-minded people to call him if they're interested in running for council in November 2014 to unseat Ford's opponents.

Coun. Josh Matlow says the mayor, in giving out his office number on the radio for challengers to call him, has run afoul of the code of conduct which prohibits using city resources for election campaigning.

Coun. Doug Ford, who co-hosts the Sunday-afternoon radio talk show with his brother, said Matlow is just upset because he had previously hosted the show but was replaced by the Fords. "Josh Matlow is ticked off because we took his radio station," Doug Ford told reporters, adding that relations with Matlow have turned frosty. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Bullies and those not-so-innocent bystanders

Bystander Collective. Student campaign aims spotlight on a third party to bullying: Those who let it happen

PHOEBE HO
toronto@metronews.ca

Ryerson students head out to Yonge-Dundas Square on Tuesday to encourage people to take part in an anti-bullying campaign. MARSHALL JESKE/FOR METRO

"I stood by while they pushed him into a locker at school and walked away."

"I stood by while they laughed and threw him in the pool."

These are a couple of the anonymous confessions trickling in on the Twitter feed of the Bystander Collective, an anti-bullying campaign launched last week by a group of Ryerson students.

Bullying is once again in the spotlight after a series of teen suicides made headlines and a controversial R-rating was given to a recent movie that explores teen bullying, barring the audience that could most benefit from seeing it.

Apart from perpetrators and victims, another group is equally involved when bullying occurs: The bystanders who watch the bullying take place, online or in schoolyards, and don't offer help.

"It's just as hurtful that people were looking at it, that people were commenting on it behind your back, just as much as if they were posting the content itself," said Ryan Bertram, a victim of online bullying and one of the 11 advanced digital-media students involved in the campaign.

The students hope to raise awareness by taking their project out of the classroom and into the streets, onto Twitter and other forms of media to invite people to share their experiences.

Participants can participate on Twitter or they can fill out a sticker, noting a time when they stood by and didn't help defuse a situation. They can also post photos on the Bystander Collective Tumblr page.

"By doing that, it's almost like you have a sense of guilt because you could've done something but you didn't do anything," said Ryerson student Dolena Matthews. "We're hoping that it gives them an incentive, at the same time, to not feel guilty and to actually do something next time."

Stopping the bullies

Taking action is not so easy, experts say

Faye Mishna, dean of the faculty of social work at the University of Toronto, commended the students for their efforts but said guilt alone may not be the solution.

People often fail to take action because they have an inherent fear of getting involved — of being picked on themselves or losing popularity among their friends. To mobilize bystanders, the underlying issues have to be addressed, she said.

"It's good to find what are the things that will help you stand up for somebody and what are the things that get in the way," Mishna said.

In addition, bystanders can fuel a situation without realizing it, said Debra Pepler, a bullying expert and professor at York University, who said that, in analyzing 500 hours of videotaped playground activities, she found about 75 per cent of the time bystanders are giving positive attention to the bullies, by watching, smiling or joining in, which gives the perpetrator even more power.

She said it's important that bystanders "don't say something that's going to accelerate the problem, but something that points out the injustice of it ... and if they don't feel safe doing that, notify an authority, whether that's a principal in a school, or police in a community situation that's out of hand."

Mishna also stressed the importance of bystanders' safety.

"You don't want them to try to stop something and get hurt themselves," she said. "But that's why it's important to have a whole culture supporting it." PHOEBE HO

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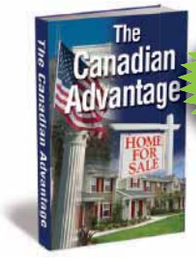

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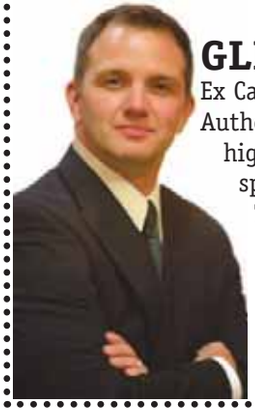

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With the province swimming in red ink, the Liberals are on a quest for savings — and that means they'll be hitting up your wallet if the opposition opts to pass the budget. Read on to find out how the deficit-slaying plan may affect you.

FOR MORE COVERAGE, VISIT METRONEWS.CA/ONTARIO_BUDGET

5 things to know about the budget

1 Greater fees

Some seniors will be asked to pay more for prescription drugs under the Ontario Drug Benefit program. JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ontario drivers, high-income seniors, homebuyers and businesses that create hazardous waste are just some of the groups being targeted with increased fees.

The government is staying firm on its promise to raise licence plate renewal fees in southern Ontario to $82 this year, an increase of $8. That fee will then rise to $98 by 2014.

Seniors with annual incomes of more than $100,000 will pay a larger share of their prescription-drug costs starting in August 2014.

And starting in 2015, homebuyers can expect to pay between one and two per cent more in fees related to land registrations and writ services.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

2 Education

Ontario will see the closure of some under-used schools but class sizes will remain the same under the budget plan released Tuesday.

Those are two key education promises from the minority Liberals' fiscal blueprint, which plans to merge some school boards as it seeks to cut costs.

As previously indicated, however, the government will stick with its plan to implement full-day kindergarten, and maintain a tuition rebate.

The budget also plans to cap high school credits at 34, four more than required to earn a diploma, by September 2013.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ISTOCK

3 Grits at mercy of opposition

It wasn't enough for the Opposition Tories, who said they won't support a budget that doesn't grasp the severity of Ontario's dire fiscal situation.

"Unsustainable deficits and debt ... undermine business confidence," said Tory Leader Tim Hudak. "And that, in turn, undermines job creation."

The Liberals' best hope for survival — the New Democrats — will get the corporate tax freeze they've been demanding. The Liberals will keep the rate at 11.5 per cent, but only until the budget is balanced. But the NDP is balking at the threat of a legislated wage freeze.

NDP Leader Andrea Horwath wouldn't say whether her party will vote for the budget, leaving the Liberals' fate in limbo.

"For people who are worried about jobs, about wages that aren't keeping up with the cost of living ... this budget has very little to offer," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Andrea Horwath

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 Animals also feeling pinch

The McGuinty government plans to downgrade individual at-risk species protection, according to its austerity budget unveiled Tuesday.

The proposal would mandate the Ministry of Natural Resources to place a "stronger focus on ecosystems than on individual species," while shrinking the number of smaller field offices — and staff — across the province.

The ministry cuts would save $11.2 million over the next three years, including $7.5 million in 2014-2015. The ministry as a whole would see its expenses dwindle from $713 million to $687 million.

The Liberals call the cuts "consistent" with improvements in science and technology.

While the criteria that defines at-risk species would not change, and nothing stands to be delisted, it remains unclear which species, exactly, will be affected.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ELAINE THOMPSON/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

5 Sin profits

The Liberal government is counting on you to drink and gamble more.

Queen's Park is looking for hundreds of millions of dollars more in revenue from expanded gaming and booze sales as it struggles to balance the books.

The McGuinty government has told the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation it has to come up with $3 billion more over the next five years, while the LCBO is being tapped for an additional $200 million over the next couple of years.

Both are consistent cash cows, but now the government is relying on so-called sin profits even more. Currently the LCBO generates about $1.5 billion for provincial coffers while the OLG brings in about $1.6 billion.

The OLG plans an aggressive initiative to expand opportunities for Ontarians to gamble in one form or another, from online betting to increasing the number of lottery and gaming outlets.

The LCBO has plans to build another 25 stores a year starting in 2014-15.

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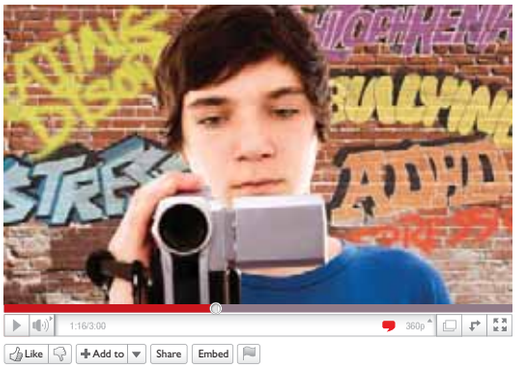

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Attack videos. Canada must continue pursuit of Internet threats: Toews

Public Safety Minister Vic Toews acknowledges Parliament's hands may be tied when it comes to dealing with online videos attacking him.

But he urged MPs not to give up their pursuit of the issue, saying threats against them in the age of the Internet need to be examined.

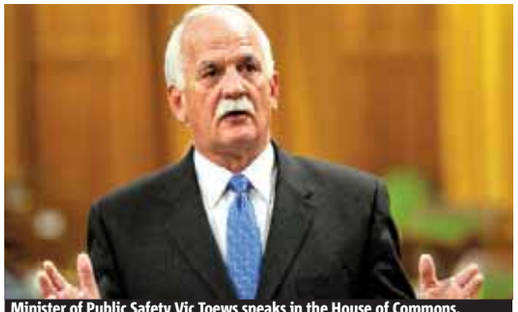
Toews appeared before a House of Commons committee Tuesday examining whether his privilege as an MP was breached when online videos disclosed details of his personal life and called for his resignation.

The videos followed the introduction of an online surveillance bill that critics say gives authorities too much power to snoop into people's online lives.

MPs are struggling with what exactly they should study, especially since they're not sure they can track down the source of the videos, attributed to the activist group Anonymous.

As of Tuesday afternoon, the videos remained on YouTube.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Minister of Public Safety Vic Toews speaks in the House of Commons. Toews says threats in today's Internet age must be pursued to protect potential victims, like himself. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

NDP leadership

Voting jammed by cyber attack: Techs

More than 10,000 "malevolent" Internet addresses were used in an effort to jam the NDP leadership convention's online voting system on the weekend, according to the tech company that ran the vote.

The denial-of-service attack delayed voting for several hours and pushed the crowning of new NDP leader Thomas Mulcair late into Saturday evening.

Some observers of the convention immediately claimed the technical delays as evidence that New Democrats are not ready to govern.

But a statement Tuesday from Scytl Canada, which ran the online vote, described Saturday's cyber attack as an organized, professional and illegal effort.

Spain-based Scytl said it has identified well over 10,000 IP addresses that generated "many hundreds of thousands" of false voting requests to the system. The so-called "botnet" used computers around the world, but mainly in Canada, said Scytl. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Talks. Annan makes progress toward ceasefire in Syria

Diplomacy. Former UN head gets crucial support for plan from Russia and China

Kofi Annan
LINTAO ZHANG/POOL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UN envoy Kofi Annan said Tuesday he has received the backing of both Syria and China for his plan for a negotiated end to the bloody Syrian conflict.

Annan believes Syria's acceptance of the peace plan is an important first step that now needs to be immediately implemented, his spokesman said.

A Paris-based member of the opposition Syrian National Council said it welcomes the Syrian government's decision.

"We hope that we can move toward a peace process," Bassma Kodmani said by telephone.

Annan, who is also an envoy for the Arab League, told reporters after meeting with Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao in Beijing on Tuesday that he had received a "positive" response from Syria as well as support from China.

He said he received a similar commitment from Russia over the weekend.

"We've had very good discussions about the situation in Syria. And they have offered me their full support," Annan said after the meeting with Wen.

Wen said work on a solution to the crisis is at a "critical juncture," adding that China backed Annan's mediation efforts.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Peace plan

The six points of UN envoy Kofi Annan's peace plan for Syria, which have been accepted by the Syrian government.

- **More talks.** Syria commits to work with Annan "in an inclusive Syrian-led political process to address the legitimate aspirations and concerns of the Syrian people."
- **Ceasefire.** Syria commits to stop fighting and immediately stop troop movements and use of heavy weapons in populated areas. Annan will seek similar commitments from the opposition.
- **Daily pause.** Syria implements a daily two-hour "humanitarian pause" to deliver aid and evacuate the injured.
- **Release prisoners.** Syria commits to intensify "the pace and scale of release of arbitrarily detained persons."
- **Allow journalists.** Syria commits to ensure freedom of movement throughout the country for journalists.
- **Allow demonstrations.** Syria commits to "respect freedom of association and the right to demonstrate peacefully as legally guaranteed."

Protesters own streets in Northern Syria

In this citizen-journalism image taken on Monday, anti-regime protesters march in Binish town in Idlib province, northern Syria. EDLIB NEWS NETWORK /THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reaction

U.S. skeptical about Syria peace plan

The Obama administration seemed wary Tuesday that President Bashar Assad's regime may use its apparent willingness to compromise as cover to press on with a year-long political crackdown.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton cautiously welcomed the Syrian government's endorsement of the six-point plan that calls for an immediate ceasefire with rebels. She said it was an important step toward peace but stressed that Assad now has to deliver.

"Given Assad's history of over-promising and under-delivering, that commitment must now be matched by immediate action," Clinton told reporters in Washington. "We will judge Assad's sincerity and seriousness by what he does, not by what he says. If he is ready to bring this dark chapter in Syria's history to a close, he could prove it by immediately ordering regime forces to stop firing and begin withdrawing from populated areas."

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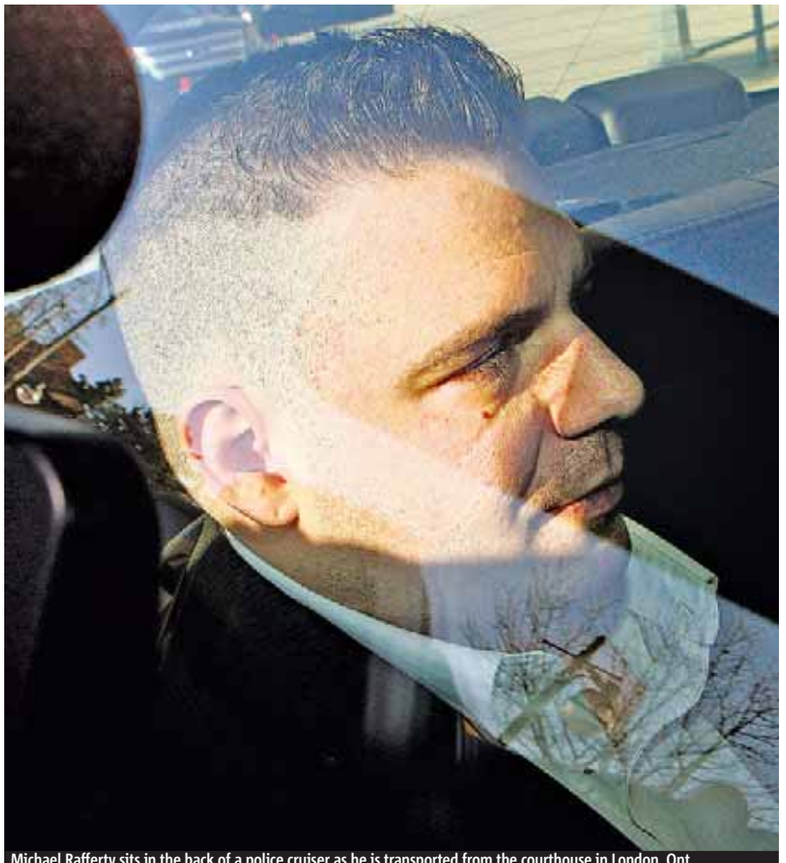

Michael Rafferty sits in the back of a police cruiser as he is transported from the courthouse in London, Ont., where he is facing charges in the death of Victoria (Tori) Stafford. DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Haggard' Rafferty was stressed out, ex-girlfriend says

Tori Stafford murder case. Accused man hadn't eaten, hadn't slept, says woman who supplied him with Percocet painkiller pills

The man accused of killing eight-year-old Victoria (Tori) Stafford looked "haggard" and seemed stressed out in the days after her death, court heard Tuesday.

Michael Rafferty visited ex-girlfriend Barbara Armstrong, 44, who kept him illegally supplied with Percocet painkiller pills, a few days after Tori's disappearance on April 8, 2009, she testified.

"He said he hadn't been eating, he hadn't been sleeping, he was so stressed out, so many things going on in his life," Armstrong testified in London, Ont.

"He was looking kind of haggard.

"He had a cold sore — he gets cold sores when he gets super stressed."

Rafferty, 31, has pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder, sexual assault causing bodily harm and kidnapping.

The Crown alleges he and girlfriend Terri-Lynne McClintic abducted Tori outside her school on April 8 and drove her to a rural area, where she was raped and killed with a hammer.

But between the abduction in Woodstock, Ont., and the killing near Mount Forest, Ont., Rafferty and McClintic made several stops, it's alleged — including at Armstrong's house in Guelph, where he bought Percocets.

The Crown alleges Tori was also in the car, but was forced to lie on the floor of the back seat with Rafferty's coat covering her.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Friends

What was the relationship between Michael Rafferty and Barbara Armstrong? She gave the court in London, Ont., extensive details.

- **Their meeting.** The two met about six years ago, when they were both working for a meat-packing plant in Guelph, Armstrong testified.
- **Their work.** She was in packaging, and he worked a couple of different jobs, including meat cutting, before he was laid off, she said.
- **Their dates.** They dated for about two months, but then remained friends. "I could pretty much tell him anything," Armstrong said. "It was like girl-talk."

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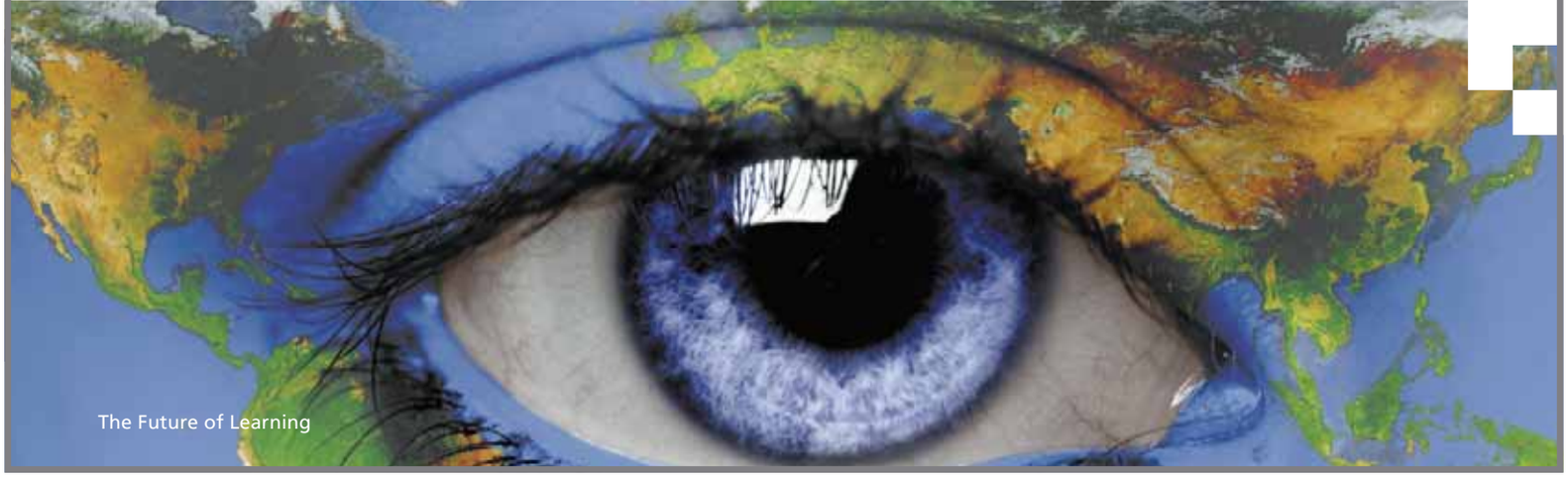

RCMP facing sex harassment class-action suit

Ex-officer's explosive allegations. Mounties planted sex toys around the office, told her to keep her legs crossed, she says

A former B.C., police constable has filed a giant class-action lawsuit against the RCMP.

The lawsuit filed Tuesday alleges widespread systemic discrimination against female officers, civilian members and civil service employees.

The suit has been filed by former Const. Janet Merlo.

She claims she suffered depression and post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of 20 years of discrimination and harassment at the Nanaimo RCMP detachment.

"It's too late for me" said Merlo in a statement released by her lawyers. "But I hope this lawsuit will bring about some positive change for women who are still with the RCMP and women who join in the future."

The notice of claim alleges male members at Merlo's detachment planted sex toys around the office, yelled at her when she got pregnant with her first child and told her to keep her legs closed.

They often made overt sexual comments and advances toward her, it's alleged.

Thunder Bay lawyer Alexander Zaitzeff is one of nine legal experts working on the case, including Vancouver-based lawyer David Klein.

More than 150 RCMP officers have signed on since former RCMP Cpl. Catherine Galliford came forward last November with dramatic allegations of harassment on the job.

Galliford is not participating in the class-action suit.

KATE WEBB/METRO VANCOUVER

They're serious

The lawsuit is not about the money, Alexander Zaitzeff said.

- **Principle.** "Not one of the 155 to 160 women has ever called and said, 'How much can I get? Not one of them," Zaitzeff told Metro.
- **Demands.** Zaitzeff added: "They want their story told ... they want the country to know what is going on within the RCMP ... they want serious, committed change."

Tuition hike

Quebec students pepper-sprayed

Angry students blocked access to government buildings in several Quebec cities Tuesday.

In Montreal, police pepper-sprayed about 200 students blocking off the offices of the provincial liquor board, preventing people from getting to work. A security guard suffered cuts to his face.

One protester was arrested for allegedly assaulting a police officer.

Students are angry over the Jean Charest government's plan to nearly double tuition fees over five years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver

City will rein in Canucks fans

A year after Vancouver's Stanley Cup riot, Canucks fans celebrating the team's playoff run will see smaller-scale events where it will be more difficult to access alcohol.

The city says the focus this year will be on events such as block parties and community centre viewings rather than the massive gathering in front of giant TV screens last year.

The city will work with transit and government to curtail the sale of alcohol and prevent massive crowds from arriving in the downtown core.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec

Study unearths 109 cancer errors

A sweeping study has found 109 cases of breast cancer that had not been diagnosed in Quebec.

About 22,000 mammograms had to be redone.

The provincial College of Physicians conducted the broad search after it was informed in late 2010 that there might be errors in mammograms.

The College of Physicians is making a series of recommendations to avoid a repeat scenario.

The radiologist associated with the original tests has not been practising for nearly two years.

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One dead as five rescued from yacht

Illegal immigrants?
Ottawa investigating whether stricken vessel was being used for human smuggling

A large search-and-rescue operation off the coast of Nova Scotia for three people missing from a stricken yacht took a twist Tuesday when the federal government announced it's investigating whether the boat was involved in human smuggling.

One man who was pulled from the Atlantic Ocean early Tuesday morning by search-and-rescue technicians was later pronounced dead, while five others were rescued. A search for three other people who were on board the SV Tabasco 2 had failed to find them by early Tuesday evening.

Public Safety Minister Vic Toews says a number of people who were rescued from the yacht, which experienced mechanical problems about 150 kilometres south of Cape Sable Island, have claimed refugee status and now the incident is being treated as a suspected case of human smuggling.

Quotable

"Our government's message is clear to those contemplating a human smuggling operation — don't do it."

Public Safety Minister Vic Toews

In a statement, Toews does not say how many of the five people who were rescued have claimed refugee status, but he used the incident to push for passage of a new immigration law.

"This tragedy highlights the need for speedy passage of the Protecting Canada's Immigration System Act," he said.

"There is an enormous and unnecessary risk involved with the act of human smuggling."

The boat issued a distress call after running into trouble at about 10:30 p.m. Monday. The crew of a Cormorant helicopter plucked three men from the water.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Search and rescue

- **Conditions.** Crews were contending with low clouds while searching for the missing men
- **In a bad state.** Two men were suffering from hypothermia, broken bones and cuts when found.
- **No response.** One man was unresponsive and was pronounced dead at the hospital.
- **Gratitude.** The survivors spoke little, although one man smiled, repeating: "Thank you very much."

Fuel protest turns explosive in Jakarta

A tear gas canister fired by Indonesian police officers explodes in the air during a protest against the government's plan to raise fuel prices in Jakarta, Indonesia, on Tuesday. The government plans to raise prices by 33 per cent next month to avoid a budget deficit. DITA ALANGKARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Study. Nuclear attack 'not end of the world'

Thinking about the unthinkable, a U.S. government study analyzed the likely effects from terrorists setting off a 10-kiloton nuclear device a few blocks north of the White House.

It predicted terrible devastation for roughly one kilometre in every direction, with buildings reduced to rubble the way that Second World War bombing raids destroyed parts of Berlin.

But outside that blast zone, the study concluded, even such a nuclear explosion would be pretty survivable.

"It's not the end of the world," said Randy Larsen, a retired Air Force colonel and founding director of the Institute for Homeland Security. "It's not a Cold War scenario."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Summit. Deadline set for securing nuclear weapons

Nearly 60 world leaders who gathered Tuesday in Seoul, South Korea, for a nuclear security summit agreed to work on securing and accounting for all nuclear material by 2014.

"It would not take much ... to kill hundreds of thousands of innocent people and that's not an exaggeration," U.S. President Barack Obama told world leaders.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. President Barack Obama
LEE JIN-MAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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French President Nicolas Sarkozy delivers a speech to magistrates and policemen who took part in the investigations into the attacks on seven people and siege of gunman Mohamed Merah's house. KENZO TRIBOUILLARD, POOL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police fear French gunman had help

Accomplice? A video of attacks on soldiers and Jewish school sent to news network by unknown individual

A video apparently showing a Muslim gunman's attacks on soldiers and a Jewish school was sent to the Al-Jazeera news network — but not by him, French police said Tuesday, raising the spectre of a possible accomplice.

Al-Jazeera on Tuesday decided not to air a video that seems to have been filmed from the killer's point of view and includes the cries of his victims.

The decision came after President Nicolas Sarkozy asked the network not to broadcast it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Video

- A French official said the video was not sent by Merah, 23, who died in a police shootout.
- Another official said the envelope sent to Al-Jazeera contained postmarks from a large postal processing centre for the area around Toulouse.

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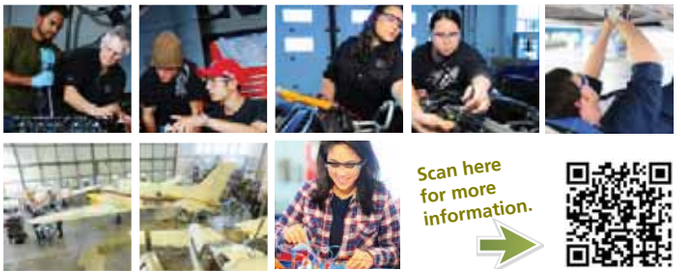

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Congressional forum

Trayvon Martin's parents on Capitol Hill as outrage persists over killing

The parents of Trayvon Martin, the 17-year-old gunned down by a neighbourhood-watch volunteer who believed he looked suspicious, are on Capitol Hill on Tuesday to attend a congressional forum looking into racial profiling and hate crimes.

Their visit to the U.S. capital comes as the nationwide uproar over their unarmed son's death enters a sadly typical phase in many high-profile, emotionally charged American crime cases: blaming the victim.

Tracy Martin and Sybrina Fulton believe their son, wearing a hoodie and walking in a gated Florida community on a rainy February night, aroused George Zimmerman's suspicions because of his race.

Zimmerman, a white Hispanic, says he acted in self-defence. He claims the youth beat him prior to the shooting after he followed Martin in his SUV despite a 9-11 dispatcher telling him not to do so.

Trayvon Martin's parents, father, Tracy Martin, and Sybrina Fulton. JACQUELYN MARTIN/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Martin and Fulton have accused the man's lawyers and local police of a smear campaign in recent days as investigators face an ever-growing barrage of criticism for failing make an arrest in the Feb. 26 shooting.

"They've killed my son, and now they're trying to kill his reputation," Fulton said this week.

Democrats organized Tuesday's Capitol Hill event. It was uncertain whether any Republican lawmakers would be in attendance.

The congressional forum is not only focusing on racial profiling and hate crimes, but also on Florida's so-called Stand Your Ground law, which essentially allows people to use deadly force if they feel threatened.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. justices sound alarm bells over health-care reform

Obamacare in peril. Supreme Court conservatives question constitutionality of democrats' mandatory coverage proposal

The U.S. Supreme Court's more conservative justices sharply questioned a core provision of President Barack Obama's historic health-care reforms Tuesday, raising doubts about the fate of the requirement that all Americans must buy insurance coverage or face a penalty.

The court's ruling on the constitutionality of the law — expected in June, during the heat of the presidential re-election campaign — will affect the lives of nearly every American and stands to deepen already wide ideological divisions.

Amy Brighton from Medina, Ohio, rallies in front of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., on Tuesday. CHARLES DHARAPAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Justices pressed the government's lawyer about the right of Congress to force Americans to buy a product.

"If the government can do that, what else can it" do? asked Justice Antonin Scalia, referring to the individual-mandate portion of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

The Democrat-appointed liberal minority of four justices was expected to vote to uphold the Obama plan. But a ruling in favour of the law would require at least one of the five conservative, Republican-appointed judges to break ranks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cold War time warp

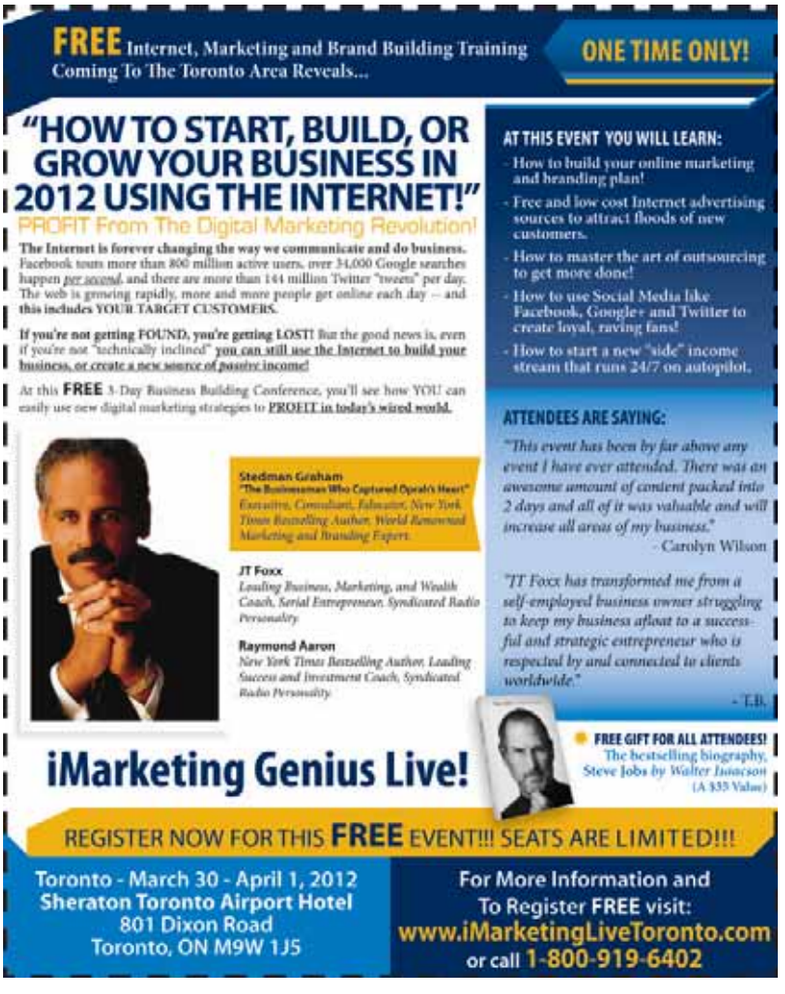
Russian president rebukes Romney

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on Tuesday sharply suggested that Mitt Romney use his head and remember what year he's living in after the Republican presidential contender said Moscow was America's "No. 1 geopolitical foe."

Romney described Russia in those terms while criticizing President Barack Obama for his caught-on-tape remarks to Medvedev that he would have more room to negotiate on missile defence if he is re-elected in November.

During a briefing Tuesday in Seoul, where he and Obama were attending a nuclear security summit, the Russian leader said Romney's remarks "smacked of Hollywood" and sounded as if they came from the Cold War era.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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Gun accident victim gets full face transplant

Patient doing well.
Surgeons hope man will get his life back after 15 years as a recluse

A 37-year-old U.S. man injured in a 1997 gun accident has been given a new face, teeth, tongue and jaw in what doctors say is the most extensive face transplant ever performed.

University of Maryland Medical Center officials announced Tuesday that Richard Norris is recovering well after last week's surgery, beginning to feel his face and already brushing his teeth and shaving. He's also regained his sense of smell, which he had lost after the accident.

Norris has spent the past 15 years living as a recluse, and the transplant will give him his life back, said Dr. Eduardo Rodriguez, the lead surgeon.

"This accidental injury just destroyed everything. The rest of his friends and colleagues went on to start getting married, having children, owning homes," Rodriguez told The Associated Press. "He wants to make up for all of that." Rodriguez said.

The 36-hour operation was the most extensive because it included transplantation of the teeth, tongue, upper and lower jaw and all facial tissue from the scalp to the base of the neck. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Surgery

23

It was the 23rd face transplant since doctors began doing the procedure seven years ago.

Surgeon Dr. Eduardo Rodriguez talks with reporters in Baltimore Tuesday beside pictures of patient Richard Lee Norris. GAIL BURTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Switzerland

Assisted suicide deaths rising

Five out of every 1,000 deaths in Switzerland now involve assisted suicide, with women more likely to die this way than men, according to the first official figures released Tuesday.

Swiss authorities recorded a steady rise in assisted suicides in recent years, from 43 in 1998 to 297 in 2009. Earlier figures aren't available, even though assisted suicide has been legal in Switzerland since 1942.

The survey shows almost 90 per cent of cases involved people aged 55 or over. Only 1 per cent involved people under 35 — or about 20 deaths over the 12-year period.

The data also show more women sought assisted suicide than men, making up about 55 per cent of cases.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dumped by doctor

Abortion records discarded in recycling bin

More than 1,000 private abortion records from a defunct U.S. clinic have been found discarded in a recycling bin, prompting a police investigation and outrage from people on both sides of the abortion debate.

The records found Saturday came from Affordable Medical and Surgical Services in Kansas City, which closed after its doctor, Krishna Rajanna, lost his medical license in 2005. The records include names, birth dates, telephone numbers and health history, including whether any abortions were performed, The Kansas City Star reported.

Rajanna said he threw the documents into recycling bins Friday. "I was under the impression that these would not be seen by anyone," Rajanna said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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My mom was diagnosed with uterine cancer at age 52 when I was still a teenager and fought it with amazing strength and optimism that was an inspiration to our whole family. Today, she is a happy, healthy woman who continues to inspire the people around her.

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Facebook suicide shocks the world

Gruesome chat. No one alerts police; some beg woman to stop

A woman in Taiwan killed herself by inhaling poisonous fumes while chatting with friends on Facebook, and none of them alerted authorities, police said Tuesday.

Claire Lin killed herself on her 31st birthday, March 18, and family members who reported her suicide were unaware of the Facebook conversations that accompanied it, Taipei police officer Hsieh Ku-ming said.

Lin's last Facebook entries show her chatting with nine friends, alerting them to her gradual asphyxiation. One picture uploaded from her mobile phone depicts a charcoal barbecue burning next to two stuffed animals. Another shows the room filled with fumes.

One friend identified as Chung Hsin told Lin, "Be calm, open the window, put out the charcoal fire, please, I beg you."

Lin replied: "The fumes are suffocating. They fill my eyes with tears. Don't write me anymore."

A few of the Facebook friends chatting with her tried to stop her and track her down on their own, but none called police. Chung did not respond to attempts to reach him for comment.

Lin's last words, in Chinese, were: "Too late. My room is filled with fumes. I just posted another picture. Even while I'm dying, I still want FB (Facebook). Must be FB poison. Haha."

Lin's Facebook postings indicated she was unhappy because her boyfriend was ignoring her, and had failed to return home to be with her on her birthday. Her boyfriend found her body the next morning and alerted her family, Hsieh said.

Hsieh said he regretted that none of her friends called police during the 67-minute episode, but he added it may have been difficult for them to know her whereabouts.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Social isolation

Chai Ben-rei, of Taiwan's Feng Chia University, said the incident reflects social isolation in the Internet age

- **"People may have doubts about what they see on the Internet because of its virtual nature, and fail to take action on it."**

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Socks, hope and love

Balloons carrying a package of socks and messages of hope and love toward North Korea float toward the country near the Unification Observatory Post in Paju, South Korea, yesterday.

EUGENE HOSHIKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fraud. U.S. soldier accused of defrauding Microsoft co-founder

A U.S. soldier's alleged scheme to defraud one of the world's richest men has landed him in federal custody.

In a criminal complaint unsealed Monday, federal investigators allege Brandon Lee Price changed the address on a bank account held by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, then had a debit card sent to his home so he could use it for payments on a delinquent Armed Forces Bank account and personal expenses.

Price was absent without leave at the time.

Price called Citibank in January and changed the address on an account held by Allen from Seattle to Pittsburgh, then called back three days later to say he'd lost his debit card and asked for a new one to be sent to him, an FBI investigator said.

Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen.

ELAINE THOMPSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A spokesman for Allen, said the fraud was detected by the bank.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Octomom. Getting sexy for U.K. magazine

Financial struggles have led "Octomom" Nadya Suleman to pose semi-nude in photographs to run alongside a paid interview in a British magazine, her attorney said Tuesday.

With 14 children to care for, Suleman can't hold down a regular job to pay her bills, lawyer Jeff Czech said.

"She's not doing well. She's struggling financially and she does whatever she can," Czech said.

In photos posted to TMZ.com and published in Britain's Closer magazine, Suleman wears panties and little else.

In an interview with TMZ's television show, Suleman said she didn't expect the photos to reach American readers so quickly, but she's not ashamed of posing for the magazine.

"I'm doing what I need to do to take care of my kids," Suleman said.

Czech declined to disclose how much Suleman was paid for the photo shoot and interview.

When Suleman gave birth to octuplets in 2009, she was an unemployed single mother who already had six other children. All her children were conceived through in vitro fertility treatments.

Nadya Suleman DAMIAN DOVARGANES/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Her octuplets are the world's longest-surviving set.

Since the birth, she has cut deals with media outlets and posed in tabloid photo spreads to earn a living. She has promoted spaying and neutering for an animal rights group and gotten beat up in a celebrity boxing match.

In 2009, Suleman declined a million-dollar offer to appear in pornography.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lorax taken from Suess home

A two-foot statue of Dr. Seuss's Lorax has been stolen from the San Diego home of the author's 90-year-old widow, Audrey Geisel. Geisel noticed Monday that the statue was missing from her garden.

AP PHOTO/U-T SAN DIEGO

Sex tourism. Brazil targets 2,000 websites

Brazil is asking more than 2,000 websites to remove sexual content that promotes Latin America's biggest country as a sex tourism destination, the Tourism Ministry said Tuesday.

Tackling the websites is part of an ongoing campaign to combat the sexual exploitation of minors during the 2014 World Cup.

Early last year, Brazil started distributing posters and ads warning that sexual exploitation of minors is a crime. They were distributed in countries from where most tourists to Brazil come from — the United States, Germany, Italy, France, the Netherlands and Spain.

"The exploitation of sex is a crime and those responsible for it must be punished," Tourism Minister Gastao Vieira said in the Tuesday statement.

He said the ministry's campaign that focused on Brazil's "natural beauties, cultural diversity and friendly people" helped attract more than 5 million foreign tourists in 2011.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Mark Zuckerberg addresses a crowd at Harvard on Nov. 7, 2011. The Facebook creator had returned to Harvard for the first time since he left in 2004 to enlist new talent for his site. ROSE LINCOLN-HARVARD UNIVERSITY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Facebook releases Zuckerberg emails

Filed. Exchanges between social-networking site's creator and a former client included in court documents filed in court in Buffalo

Emails from Mark Zuckerberg's Harvard days show the dropout-turned-Facebook CEO as a young entrepreneur losing patience with a client's delayed payments.

"I contracted out my services for money, and even though I seem to be continually be providing services, I don't seem to be receiving money from you guys," he wrote Jan. 25, 2004, according to court documents filed Monday by Facebook's lawyers.

Zuckerberg founded Facebook the following month.

The client, Paul Ceglia, sued Zuckerberg in 2010, claiming that a contract he signed in 2003 entitled him to a 50 per cent ownership stake in Facebook.

Facebook said the roughly 300 emails it obtained from Harvard's servers relating to the case make no mention of Facebook. Instead, the emails centre on a database company called StreetFax that never took off.

In addition to losing patience with his late payments, Zuckerberg tells Ceglia's colleague in one email that StreetFax is not a very high priority for him, given that there are "many other things I'd like to, and have started to, work on."

The last email, from May 2004, shows the two men may have worked out a payment plan, where Ceglia would send $500 a month until his bill was paid in full. It's not clear if the payments were actually made.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The suit

- **At stake.** If Facebook's initial public offering goes as expected, Paul Ceglia's claim to a 50 per cent ownership stake in Facebook could amount to $50 billion US.
- **Fake?** Facebook's lawyers are seeking to dismiss Ceglia's suit. They say the contract is a fake.

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Market Minute

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OIL $107.33 (+30¢)

GOLD $1,684.90 (-70¢)

Natural gas: $2.294 (-2.5¢)
Euro: $1.3250 (+0.09¢)

Corporate strength

Firms could ride out crisis: CIBC

A new measure of corporate health suggests Canadian firms are on solid ground to withstand another economic crisis, or take advantage of the recovery.

CIBC says its new index of corporate strength, composed of nine key measures including debt, cash on hand and profits, shows Canadian firms are in the strongest position in years. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pipelines

Enbridge plans to expand projects

The race to ship crude to Gulf Coast refineries has intensified, as Enbridge Inc. announced plans to invest nearly $4 billion on two expanded U.S. pipeline proposals.

Its proposed Seaway project between the oversupplied Cushing, Okla., storage hub and the Gulf will be scaled up by 450,000 barrels per day.

And its proposed Flanagan South line from the Chicago area down to Cushing has been expanded to a 36-diameter line with a capacity of 585,000 barrels per day.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tobacco smuggling

174 countries near agreement

A large chunk of the world is closing in on a treaty to crack down on tobacco smuggling, a practice that is estimated to cost governments up to $50 billion in tax revenue each year, the World Health Organization said.

Diplomats from 174 WHO members states are expected to have a draft treaty by the time they meet in South Korea later this year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLORADO KIDS GET EGGED ON

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/justsaying

This is a story about an Easter egg hunt.

Of course, this is me, so it's a story about an Easter egg hunt gone horribly wrong.

The annual Easter egg hunt in Colorado Springs was called off this year because last year a mob of crazed parents leaped over the rope into an area restricted to kids and gathered up all the eggs before the kids knew what was happening.

When asked to explain his shocking behaviour, one dad explained: "You better believe I'm going to help my kid get one of those eggs. I promise my kid an Easter egg hunt, and I'd want to give him an even edge," he told The Associated Press.

Parents on the hunt

"We've come a long way from the days when my generation was growing up: our parents used to throw us out of the cave in the morning with instructions to go and frolic with the mastodons and the sabre-toothed tigers while they pursued their Mad Men dreams and schemes."

Left groping to explain all those adults gone wild, one expert blames "helicopter parents" and "millennial children." Today's parents, so the theory goes, are so anxious to prevent little Logan or Olivia from experiencing Early Disappointment Syndrome (I made that up) they'll turn an Easter egg hunt into blood sport. If Olivia falls victim to EDS, her self-esteem will suffer and she won't be able to get into the best schools and take her rightful place among the Masters and Mistresses of the Universe.

It's the same at the rink, the soccer pitch, the birthday party, dance class and wherever else helicopter parents hover. My favourite is that millennial kids are now taking their parents to their job interviews so that Mr. and Ms. Helicopter can make sure Olivia gets a fair shake during the interview and the inevitable negotiation that follows.

We've come a long way from the days when my generation was growing up: our parents used to throw us out of the cave in the morning with instructions to go and frolic with the mastodons and the sabre-toothed tigers while they pursued their Mad Men dreams and schemes.

I swear we would play entire seasons of hockey outdoors — and never see a single parent standing on the snow banks, which makes sense, as your face would freeze after a minute's exposure to the wind chill. I used to take big hits in the hope I would get injured and be able to go into the shack and sit next to the heater.

Now kids play in world-class arenas or stadiums, complete with team doctors and publicists. And a squadron of helicopter parents, hovering in formation like killer bees.

Making sure nothing interesting happens to their kids.

But let's see what I can do. Kid? Listen up. There's no such thing as the Easter Bunny anyway.

We know of some unlucky kids who won't be getting an Easter egg hunt this year. GETTY IMAGES

A blast from the past

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER.
ROOSEVELT LOSING, POLITICIANS INSIST
BIGELOW REBUKED IN BITTER BATTLE
105 DEAD, BURIED 'COAL CONFERENCE' BY BLAST IN MINE; PROGRESS SLOWLY
AMELIUS SOLVES

A copy of the Cleveland Plain Dealer, dated Thursday, March 21, 1912, is held up after the opening of a time capsule buried 100 years ago at GE Lighting's Nela Park world headquarters Monday in Cleveland. TONY DEJAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TONY DEJAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A bright idea

Five of the century-old light bulbs placed next to a time capsule buried 100 years ago at GE's Lighting's Nela Park world headquarters Monday in Cleveland. Enclosed in the time capsule were also historical lighting-industry brochures and other artifacts.

TONY DEJAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

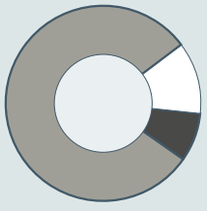
The board

A photo of GE's board of directors in 1912 is held up.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

What did you think of the Mad Men season premiere?



80% I DIDN'T WATCH

12% LOVED IT

8% DIDN'T LIVE UP TO THE HYPE

Twitter

@BrianBurkeGM: Would it be inappropriate if I put a paper bag over my head up here in the press box? #Leafs #NHL

@peterisfunny: Vic Toews probably finds calculators controversial. Can we get somebody other than old, white troglodytes to run our country? #victoews

@pushFoodForward: 400,000 Ontarians are using food banks, and times are still tough. Need real solutions. #onfood #onpoli

@LeafsNationFan: The booing is getting louder at Air Canada Centre. Leafs trail Hurricanes 3-0 with 4:08 left to play in the 3rd period.

@teresacwcheng: The new #TTC subway automated overhead announcement voice is so impersonal and robotic :(i'm gonna miss the old PA announcer. #Toronto

metro

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Billy Zane starred opposite Kate Winslet in Titanic. CONTRIBUTED

Titanic was a 'game-changer'

An interview with Billy Zane. The Titanic baddie returns, only this time in 3D

KIERON MONKS
scene@metronews.ca

It's been 15 years since Titanic reduced us all to sobbing wrecks, and smashed box-office records.

Now James Cameron's classic is being reissued in eye-popping 3D and we caught up with its sharp-suited villain Cal Hockley, also known as Billy Zane.

How did the original Titanic change your life?
It was an incredible calling card. Titanic was an invitation to the tables of sovereign leaders for whatever you wanted to leverage, in my case charities. It was a game-changer, and a great honour to be canonized in the pantheon of significant movies.

Having played such a villain — are you worried about a new wave of unpopularity with the 3D release?
Oh, been there, done that, I'm well versed from the first time.

There's actually been a new perspective on Cal. Perhaps revisiting the movie has helped people see him through a different lens and have more sympathy.

You're not experiencing hostility?
Men say I was a terrible shot and women are in two camps. The ones who were swept up in Leo-mania and can't believe I was in the way of true love, and the slyer ones with an appetite for jewelry who thought Rose was mad to leave Cal.

The most important thing for me was to mine understanding. The burden of the era was placed upon him too; he had a lot to manage. Collectively we were always analyzing, looking for opportunities to disarm the audience.

Does a real man make his own luck?
But of course.

Would you have liked anything about living in 1912?
Life before cellphones! Also the lost art of craftsmanship. I miss things being well made. Architecture and craftsmanship standards in general have fallen.

How do you and the ocean get along?
I forged my career at sea in Dead Calm, where I played a nutter on a boat. I do well at sea, the boats just got bigger. In real life? It makes it very hard to charter one.

What will audiences get out of this reissue?
It depends what audience. Most have seen the film before, so they're going in with comforting expectation. It's much like seeing an anthem band from the 1980s; waiting for the big hit, fired up nostalgically for when the first chord hits and you're transported to a time and place.

The device of 3D allows the filmmaker to keep the audience off balance — it's an unpredictable space that allows heartstrings to be manipulated.

After 3D, what other new forms of Titanic could be created?
I think a role-play game in real time from the moment of impact or just before is probably something they might consider.

It's easy to forget this is all based on a historic tragedy. How has all this affected you?
More so than before. I saw a segment of the voyage on the (BBC) One Show I had never seen before. While watching it I had a very uneasy feeling. For the original, the tragedy hadn't hit me. We were always caught up in the artifice of film. Now it's different, I feel the weight.

Titanic trivia

A few lesser know facts about the movie (courtesy of IMDB).

- **Leo love.** The studios actually wanted Matthew McConaughey, but James Cameron insisted on Leonardo DiCaprio.
- **Budget.** At $200 million, the movie cost more than the Titanic itself. The cost to construct the ship in 1910-1912 was $7.5 million at the time and about $120 to $150 million in 1997 dollars.

2 SCENE

Scene in brief

Is that Harry Potter on your Kindle?

At last, Harry Potter's adventures are available electronically. The seven novels about J.K. Rowling's boy wizard are for sale as ebooks and audio books on the author's Pottermore website, the site's creators announced Tuesday. The books are currently available in English, in U.S. and U.K. editions, priced at $7.99 for ebooks and $29.99 for audio versions. The site says French, Italian, German and Spanish editions will follow in the coming weeks. The Harry Potter novels have sold 450 million copies, but Rowling for years resisted making the books available in digital form. She announced last year that Potter ebooks would be sold through the Pottermore site, an interactive portal into Harry's magical world.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the Web

Man pleads guilty in Los Angeles in celebrity hacking case involving Christina Aguilera, Scarlett Johansson

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Stage notes

Many reasons to visit the ROM this spring

JONATHAN NAYMARK
scene@metronews.ca

Maya: Secrets of their Ancient World runs until April 9 at the ROM. The exhibition highlights the ancient Mesoamerican civilization's Classic Period (250 to 900 CE). It features nearly 250 remarkable objects, some only recently excavated. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

It's proving to be a very busy spring at the Royal Ontario Museum.

The museum's current blockbuster exhibit Maya: Secrets of their Ancient World, closes on April 9. Featuring never-before-seen artifacts from this ancient Mesoamerican culture, the Maya exhibit takes visitors on a journey through one of the greatest civilizations of the ancient world.

This Saturday, March 31, is also the ROM's Young Patrons Circle annual fundraising Fete: PROM at the ROM. The theme this year is circus; so come experience the greatest party on Earth at the 7th annual PROM.

And finally this June the ROM opens their long-awaited exhibit: Ultimate dinosaurs: Giants from Gondwanda. The dinosaur exhibit, which has been put together by the ROM's curatorial staff, will feature 17 of the strangest dinosaurs to have ever walked our Earth.

Highlights from the exhibit will be the three Augmented Reality experiences which will help ROM visitors feel like they are actually in the palaeontology age.

Ultimate dinosaur will also feature 17 full-scale skeletal dinosaur casts, many of which have never been seen before in Canada. Make sure you visit the world's first display of the Futalognkosaurus, one of the biggest animals to have ever walked the earth, stretching 110-feet long. You can also see the Giganotosaurus, thought by some to be the largest land predator to have ever lived.

And don't forget that the ROM has rolled-back their prices making the museum ever the more accessible to families. Adult prices are now only $15, down from $24 and children's admission has been reduced to $12 from $16. Tickets to all of ROM events are available via the ROM's website at rom.on.ca.

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5 cringe-worthy rhymes in Justin Bieber's Boyfriend

Somebody make it stop. Sorry Beliebers — Metro just couldn't resist making fun of his new song for its awful lyrics

JUSTIN BIEBER GETTY IMAGES

As Justin Bieber emerges from puberty and tries to bring his music along with him, the result is a song with lyrics so ridiculous that it's actually funny. Behold: Boyfriend.

Since we know the slightest bit of criticism is enough to spark unmeasurable outrage among tween Beliebers, we decided to present evidence to back up our case that this song is downright embarrassing.

Let us begin with the overuse (or just general use) of the words "swag" and "swaggie." What is swaggie? Are we too old to understand this?

And now, brace yourself for the five worst rhymes in Justin Bieber's song Boyfriend.

1. "Baby, take a chance or you'll never ever know, I've got money in my hands that I'd really like to blow."
What is Justin Bieber, the new T.I.? We know the kid is a gazillionaire but is he really going to throw cash into the mix of his most whimsical, romantic song yet?

2. "Swag on you, chillin by the fire while we eatin' fondue."
Now, that is some romantic stuff right there. Roaring fire and fondue? See Biebs, with game like that, you don't need to go around throwin' down dolla dolla billz.

3. "So say hello to falsetto in three, two, SWAG!"
Well, hello, falsetto! We were so worried you were gone, what with all these big boy lyrics.

4. "Tell me what you like girl, tell me what you don't. I could be your Buzz Lightyear, fly across the globe."
So yeah, just in case you needed any more proof that this song is a sad attempt at seeming more "grown up," Biebs throws in a Toy Story reference.

5. "I don't never wanna fight, yeah, you already know. I'm a make you shine bright like you're laying in the snow. Brrrr."
Aside from the double negative (Come on, Biebs, we know your grammar is better than that), we don't even understand what this means. Do people get shinier when they're laying in the snow? If anything, they start to lose colour, right? METRO NEW YORK

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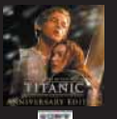

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He's got the acting chops, but Clive Owen may be almost famous forever

Flying under the fame radar. Why Clive Owen isn't a mega-star and why he maybe doesn't want to be

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Clive Owen should be breathing the same air as George Clooney and Will Smith; that crystal clean A-lister air that only the rarified few ever get to sample.

He ought to be a massive movie star, but despite smouldering good looks and some big hits like Children of Men and The Inside Man, he isn't.

Last year the Globe and Mail noted that Owen "remains just below popular radar" despite "critical acclaim for his acting chops." He's a Golden Globe and BAFTA winner and an Oscar nominee, so the acting chops aren't in doubt, but being a movie star and being a good actor are not mutually exclusive. If so, Sam Rockwell and Casey Affleck would be superstars.

So why isn't Owen in the mega leagues?

Partly by choice. It's said that he prefers a quiet life in the coastal town of Harwich, England, with his wife of almost two decades and children, to walking a red carpet.

Fair enough, but I think the eclecticism of his choices prevents audiences from getting a handle on him.

This weekend, for instance, he plays a protective father who battles a bogeyman named Hollowface to protect his daughter in the horror film Intruders.

It's not the first time he's played a family man but in very different kinds of films, with varying portrayals.

In Trust he was a sensitive father shattered by his daughter's involvement with an online predator and in The Boys Are Back he had to learn how to be a father to two kids he barely knew after his on-screen wife died.

CLIVE OWEN AS JOHN FARROW IN INTRUDERS. COURTESY MILLENIUM ENTERTAINMENT

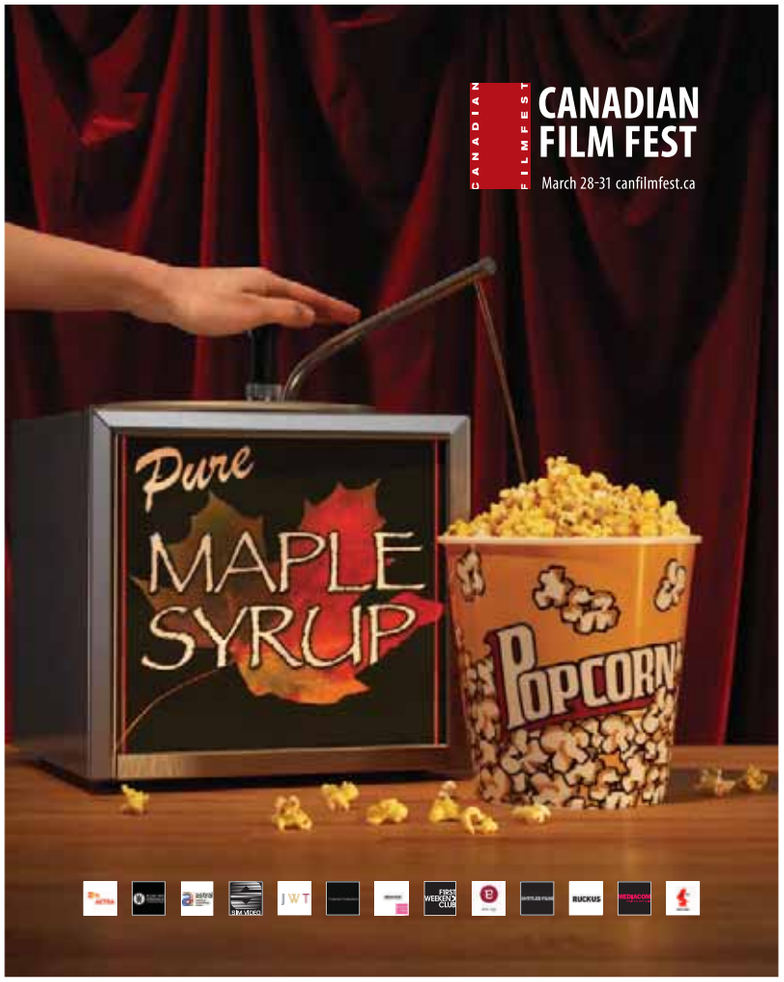
Then there is the long list of action movies on his resumé. He has punched, kicked and shot his way through violent films that relied on cartoon theatrics like Shoot 'Em Up and Sin City, espionage thrillers like Killer Elite and The International and even spy comedies like The Pink Panther.

Then there are the swashbuckling period pieces like King Arthur and Elizabeth: The Golden Age, where he's all ruffles and chain mail, and Gosford Park, a murder mystery set in 1932, where he plays Robert Parks, the valet to a wealthy land owner.

The only constants connecting Owen's movies are his charisma — "I don't 'do' emotion," he says. "Emotions are overrated. I'm more interested in creating a presence" — and his acting ability. Mega star or not, no one can deny the guy has presence no matter what the role.

Owen's take on his acting

"I don't 'do' emotion. Emotions are overrated. I'm more interested in creating a presence."
Clive Owen



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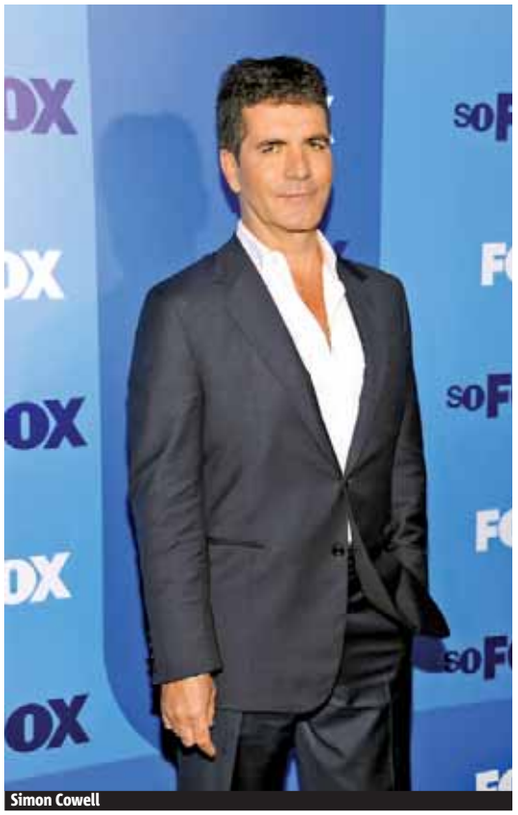

Simon Cowell

Crazed fan goes after X Factor creator Simon Cowell

Simon Cowell had a close encounter with an obsessed fan when a brick-wielding woman broke into his London home and came face to face with the X Factor boss before getting nabbed by his on-site security, according to the Washington Post.

"It came from the bathroom, so he went in," Max Clifford, Cowell's spokesperson, said in a statement.

"She had smashed her way in through the window, and it was unclear how long she had been there or what she was doing."

Clifford adds that Cowell was shaken by the scare.

"It was a very frightening experience for Simon, who told me it was like something from a horror movie," he says.

Getting smashed

"She had smashed her way in through the window, and it was unclear how long she had been there or what she was doing."

Max Clifford, Cowell's spokesperson

Twitter

@MileyCyrus
I'm not engaged. I've worn this same ring on this finger since November! People just wanna find something to talk about! It's a topaz people!

@andersoncooper
I just started running again, but don't think I could do a marathon

@KChenoweth
I wish it was my bday today. I need a present.

@ConanOBrien
Got my oil changed downtown just so I could tweet something that sounded dirty.

The Word

How does this man pull such hot women? ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Hollywood women love the bad boy

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

In a recent column, I brought up the news that everyone's favourite '90s goth (besides blood-sucking era Angelina Jolie), Marilyn Manson, is dating chanteuse Lana Del Rey. And, perhaps it was shallow of me, but I asked what it was about the creepy rocker that attracted some of Hollywood's most beautiful women (Rose McGowan, Dita Von Teese, Evan Rachel Wood are three of his most famous conquests). Luckily, you wrote in:

"The best I can do is remember that ignorance is a natural part of the human process."

"He's creepy outwardly, I'll grant you and beyond strange. He is also intelligent, well spoken, charming (when he wants to be) and masculine (despite the make-up and freaky gender-bending BDSM clothing)…. He's good at making interesting conversation and accomplished at drawing women in. A fine predator of the male species."

"The answer is so simple that you missed it completely! Ask yourself how Ric Ocasek got Paulina? The reason you don't get it is that you are not a fan of Marilyn Manson. Your biased view inhibits your clarity."

My biased view? No. It's just curious. I'd like to file this under that weird phenomenon of how once-popular Hollywood men whose careers are currently on a downward slide—see: Wilmer Valderrama; Macaulay Culkin — still get so many successful, hot girlfriends and George Clooney gets a former WWE wrestler. Ladies, I'd like a word.

Fergie

Fergie wants to add peas to her family pod

After three years of marriage to Josh Duhamel, Fergie is up for having kids — just not now.

"It's not happening yet, I can tell you that definitely," Fergie says, according to Hollyscoop.

"But we want to have a family, so that's in the cards, but it's just not this second."

The continued wait has to do with the fact that, with a lighter Black Eyed Peas schedule, the singer finally has time to spend with her husband.

"Eight years of being on the road, and now I've been off the road, what, five months?" she says.

Bobby Brown

Bobby Brown busted by police

Bobby Brown was pulled over for using his cellphone while behind the wheel in L.A. this week — but ended up getting arrested for driving under the influence, according to TMZ.

Brown was held in a Van Nuys, Calif., jail before posting bail.

"It's unclear what substance cops believe Brown had been using before he got behind the wheel," a source tells the website.

Brown has a previous DUI conviction on his record stemming from a 1996 arrest in Georgia.

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3 LIFE

Stamp

Queen puts stamp on exhibit

Regular mail — the kind with a stamp on it — isn't the everyday fact of life it used to be. And that means we might not get to see the Queen as often as Canadians did in the past. The Canadian Postal Museum in Gatineau, Que., is marking Elizabeth's diamond jubilee with an exhibition of over 600 stamps issued since 1952 that bear her likeness. "This collection of postal portraits provides an excellent historical account of one of many examples of the Queen's presence in the everyday lives of Canadians," Heritage Minister James Moore said in a release.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the Web

Beagle at Kennedy Airport sniffs out contraband food hidden in international luggage

There's lots to love about Paris in springtime

French immersion.
As the days get longer and the sun warms the city, now is the time to let your love for France blossom

AURÉLIE RESCH
travel@metronews.ca

Spring is in the air. Students are out night and day, lovers cuddle on benches in the city's parks, the atmosphere is serene and the pace in Paris is pretty relaxed as days get longer. As I stroll along the shores of La Seine, I can't help thinking of the light spirited Woody Allen movie. Like Gil, the main character of Midnight in Paris, I embrace everything I come across in the French capital with delight and gratitude.

The soft light playing on the glass panels of the Louvre pyramids is a painting worth as much as the most notorious exhibited inside. Talking with the booksellers by the Seine in order to find a copy of an ancient manuscript brings me joy.

March is a lazy month with unpredictable mood swings. As it gets warmer during the day, I look for some shade in le Jardin du Luxembourg.

In this great recreational park of the 5th arrondissement (district) of Paris, I take pleasure in looking at children playing with miniature sailboats on the main basin and at the statues scattered in the park picturing romance, love, desire and revenge (I imagine).

A sudden shower pushes me down in the subway heading to the Quai Branly for an escape to the museum of cultures and civilizations. This fascinating place created by former French president Jacques Chirac offers a complete, clever and well displayed collection of craft, arts and history that reflects the richness and variety of the many cultures around the world.

As the night falls, the rain has stopped and the temperature is still good enough to hang out. I walk up the Champs Élysées to the Arc de Triomphe, just because it feels great to stroll along this notorious avenue and I stop at the Fouquet's to enjoy a meal in a very expensive café, looking at ecstatic tourists and young families heading back home. Then I head to Place de l'Odéon to have dinner in one of the numerous restaurants in this tiny passage where artists, students and wealthy people meet and talk through the night. I have a hard decision to make: should I sit at Le Procope, a Parisian institution, or opt for the friendly atmosphere and the amazing desert of La Jacobine?

As if the excellent meal was not enough to please my palate, I walk up on Saint Germain to stop at the chocolate boutique of famous maître-chocolatier Larnicol. I indulge in delicacies in this chocolate palace. It's now time to burn it off with some jazz. The Quartier Latin is a vibrant place where life is bustling and the night is always young. There are plenty of clubs to listen to music in and many opportunities to mingle with a happy crowd.

Spring in Paris calls for long errands. The city offers it all: elegant architecture, fancy stores and interesting urban sketches… Yes, indeed, the Parisian cliché is a delightful experience!

Maybe love will strike at the corner of a café or on the sidewalk of Notre Dame and just like for Gil; a young charismatic stranger will turn my Parisian experience into a romance.

People enjoy the spring weather outside the Louvre. ZOETNET/FLICKR

Maybe love will strike you at the Arc de Triomphe or on the sidewalk of Notre Dame this spring. FLICKR

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Get ready for a trip to Hogwarts

Here, a sneak peek at the U.K. sets where author J.K. Rowling's little book was turned into a big blockbuster. They open to visitors on March 31.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Potter fans can now visit the Great Hall. SUPPLIED

The Great Hall

Bummer. The majestic hall has no floating candles, like in the film. In fact, the floor is the room's only genuine prop, and was made from York Flagstone in order to resist 10 years worth of wear and tear. The ceiling was digitally animated with a changing sky for the films. The hall was also where the birthday parties were held for the cast and crew.

The animal crew

Ever wondered what happened to all those cute owls, cats and dogs? Most of them were rescues and have either remained at the nearby Training Centre or been sent to good homes. During filming, it took up to 12 weeks to train the cats and dogs. It took three months to teach an owl the same thing you could teach a raven in one day.

Aragog Acromantula

Do those creepy spiders from the Magic Forest crawl into your dreams at night? Well you can sleep tight; they were merely digital animations. As for Aragog, Hagrid's blind hairy spider with the 18-foot leg span, he was nothing but a massive prop fitted by hand with yak hair, sisal and old hemp.

Dumbledore's office

Judging by all those heavy paperbacks covering the walls of his office, Dumbledore was a bookworm. False: the prop team used old phone directories and fitted them with fancy covers. There's also a dusty telescope. It was the most expensive prop ever made, and got zero screen time.

Grounded brooms

Remember all that sky-high magical steering? Back down on Earth, that was nothing but a broom stuck to the end of a metal pole, bobbing up and down against a glowing green screen. The studio allows you to ride a broom, wind blowing in your face and all.

Hagrid's height

In order to enhance Hagrid's giant stature, the film crew would make him sit in a tall chair nearest to the camera. All others in the scene would sit in shorter chairs, furthest from the screen in order to appear smaller in size.

Harry's house

In the first film, producers hired a street in the nearby village of Bracknell to shoot the scenes set in Harry's house. By the second film, local residents had become greedy and started asking for more money in return for filming rights to their road. To slash costs, the crew built a fake road and house outside the studio. Problem solved.

Potions classroom

Some of the ingredients on the classroom shelves aren't as gross as you'd expect; plastic animals from Regent's Park Zoo gift shop and animal bones from a local butcher shop.

Geeky facts

- **$4.** The cost of a butterbeer (a sickly sweet drink — we tried it).
- **The Goblet of Fire.** Was made from the trunk of a single English elm.
- **Hagrid's motorbike.** Was a 1960 Royal Enfield model modified with a larger seat.
- **17,000 wands.** The number of wands in the wand shop.
- **The tour guide.** Referred to Robert Pattinson as Robert Paterson. No No No.

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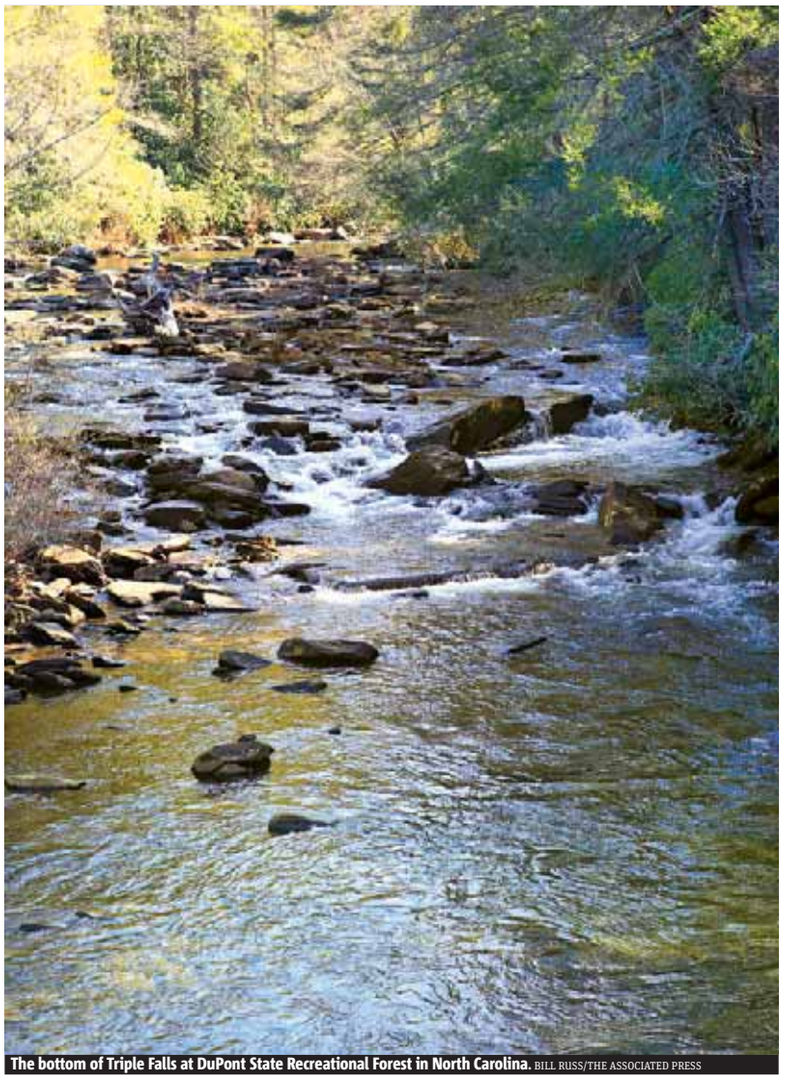
North Carolina braces for Hunger Games tourism



The bottom of Triple Falls at DuPont State Recreational Forest in North Carolina. BILL RUSS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This house, in the Henry River Mill Village, was fitted as the Everdeens' home in the Hunger Games. MARGO METZGER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This building in was used as the bakery.
MARGO METZGER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cashing in on craze.
Tour 'District 12,' learn about survival and watch re-enactments of scenes from the film on special tours

Fans of The Hunger Games are already turning up in North Carolina, seeking out places where the movie was shot, from old-growth forests to an abandoned mill town.

And the tourism industry is prepared to cash in on them, with everything from hotel packages and zip line tours, to re-enactments of scenes from the film and lessons in survival skills.

The movie, which opened last weekend, is based on a bestselling book about a post-apocalyptic world where teenagers compete to the death in fighting games.

It was filmed entirely in North Carolina, from the mountains, where fake trees were planted, filled with propane and blown up, to Charlotte, which served as the Capitol from the story — the seat of power where the teens are sent for training.

Also prominently featured in the movie is the Henry River Mill Village near Hildebran, about 115 kilometres from Asheville, which was the setting for District 12, home of the three main characters, Katniss, Peeta and Gale.

Although the mill burned down in 1977, the 20-plus remaining buildings, including the company store, make it look like a ghost town.

The village is private property, and the local sheriff's department is working with private security guards to keep people away, concerned about liability if someone gets hurt.

But fans are already coming. "I'm getting too many visitors," said the property owner, Wade Shepherd, 83, who hasn't read The Hunger Games.

"Day and night, they're driving through, taking pictures, getting out and walking. I'm just bombarded with people."

North Carolina's trees also figure prominently in the movie. At first, pine trees tall enough to suit the filmmakers' needs couldn't be found. But Pam Lewis, film commissioner in the western part of the state when Lionsgate, the film company, was scoping out locations, found a 22,000-acre forest of old-growth trees in Asheville's watershed, and that's where the movie's arena scenes were filmed. The public isn't allowed in this protected watershed area, but plenty of other forests are open to visitors.

Filmmakers spent more than $60 million on The Hunger Games in North Carolina, and employed about 5,000 people, including stars, extras and crews, making it the largest movie ever made here. Other famous movies filmed in the state include Dirty Dancing, The Last of the Mohicans and Bull Durham.

The Hunger Games is based on the first book from author Suzanne Collins' bestselling trilogy.

The state Division of Tourism has designed a four-day self-guided tour for fans of the movie. The first day includes stops at the Henry River Mill Village plus places where the stars hung out in Asheville. Next on the itinerary is DuPont State Recreational Forest near Brevard where the arena scenes were filmed, followed by Shelby, where reaping scenes were shot in private warehouse space. A final day in Charlotte includes the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center's Knight Theater, where interview scenes with the teenage "tributes" were filmed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"Day and night, they're driving through ... I'm just bombarded with people."

Wade Shepherd, property owner in the Henry River Mill Village in North Carolina, the location where scenes from The Hunger Games were shot.

For diehard fans

Re-enact a scene

A company called Hunger Games Fan Tours offers day and weekend trips to waterfalls and other spots in Transylvania County. As part of the tour, actors re-enact some of the scenes shot there and guests are served food described in the story. Visit hungergamesfantours.com.

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A statue of Amelia Earhart sits in her hometown of Atchison, Kan. PHOTOS: ERIC KEITH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A model of the Lockheed Model 10 Electra that Amelia Earhart was flying during an attempt to make a flight around the world in 1937 is shown in her birthplace of Atchison, Kan.

Visitors view an Amelia Earhart exhibit in her hometown.

After 75 years, Amelia Earhart search yields promising clues

Evidence. Photograph taken months after Earhart's plane vanished shows what may be her landing gear off the island of Nikumaroro

A new clue in one of the 20th century's most enduring mysteries could soon uncover the fate of American aviator Amelia Earhart, who went missing without a trace over the South Pacific 75 years ago, investigators said last week.

Enhanced analysis of a photograph taken just months after Earhart's Lockheed Electra plane vanished shows what experts think may be the landing gear of the aircraft protruding from the waters off the remote island of Nikumaroro, in what is now the Pacific nation of Kiribati, they said.

Armed with that analysis by the State Department, historians, scientists and salvagers from The International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery, are returning to the island in July in the hope of finding the wreckage of Earhart's plane and perhaps even the remains of the pilot and her navigator Fred Noonan.

Ric Gillespie, executive director of the group, acknowledged that the evidence was "circumstantial" but "strong" but stopped short of predicting success. The new search is scheduled to last for 10 days in July and will use state-of-the-art underwater robotic submarines and mapping equipment.

"The most important thing is not whether we find the ultimate answer or what we find, it is the way we look," he said. "We see this opportunity to explore ... the last great American mystery of the 20th century as a vehicle for demonstrating how to go about figuring out what is true."

Earhart and Noonan disappeared July 2, 1937, while flying from New Guinea to Howland Island as part of her attempt to become the first female pilot to circumnavigate the globe. Extensive searches at the time uncovered nothing and many historians are convinced they crashed into the ocean. In addition, conspiracy theories, including claims that they were U.S. government agents captured by the Japanese before the Second World War, still abound despite having been largely debunked.

Gillepsie's group believes Earhart and Noonan may have managed to land on a reef abutting the atoll, then known as Gardner Island, and survived for a short time. They surmise that the plane was washed off the reef by high tides shortly after the landing and that the wreckage may be found in the deep waters nearby.

Their previous visits to the island have recovered artifacts that could have belonged to Earhart and Noonan and suggest they might have lived for days or weeks. Now, they have the new analysis of the October 1937 photo of the shoreline of the island. Experts say a blurry object sticking out of the water in the lower left corner of the black-and-white photo is consistent with a strut and wheel of a Lockheed Electra landing gear. Renowned oceanographer Robert Ballard, who discovered the wreckage of the Titanic and the Bismarck and is advising the Earhart expedition, said the new analysis of the photograph could be the equivalent of a "smoking gun" as it narrows the search area from tens of thousands of square miles to a manageable size.

Ballard confessed to having been previously intimidated by the challenge of finding clues to Earhart's whereabouts. "If you ever want a case of finding a needle in a haystack, this is at the top of the list," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Earhart's audacity

Inspiring woman

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton gave her support to the search for the Earhart wreckage last week, sharing her thoughts.

"We can be as optimistic and even audacious as Amelia Earhart," said Clinton. "We can be defined not by the limits that hold us down, but by the opportunities that are ahead."

My favourite place in Canada

Alan Bishop loves Brooks

In my travels I am often asked what is my favourite place in Canada and I then have to stop the flood of memories that fill my head. There are so many amazing spots to choose from across our great nation. I have wonderful memories of climbing in the majestic mountains found in Jasper National Park, or quietly paddling in the serenity of the lakes in Kejimkujik National Park. But if I had to pick a favourite it would have to be on the coastal white sand beaches of The Brooks Peninsula on Vancouver Island. This relatively unknown spot is wild, rugged and possibly the most beautiful place on earth. If you enjoy kayaking, surfing, hiking, fishing, beach combing or just gazing into the beauty of everything West Coast, then the "Brooks" is the place to be. I have been lucky enough to spend more than 100 days on this amazing bit of wilderness and I would go again at the drop of a hat.

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Tourists are allowed to climb the Mayan pyramid at Lamanai. PAUL HARRIS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

An unspoiled Mayan experience awaits visitors to Belize

Lamanai. Site that was rediscovered in the 1970s is a sanctuary of peace compared to other world-famous Mayan ruins

Like Belize as a whole, Lamanai is growing in popularity as a tourist destination. With air and hotel packages available, Belize is an attractive alternative for Canadian travellers seeking a change from the vacation experience in Mexico just to the north.

Travelling here is relatively easy. English is the official language of Belize, which is part of the Commonwealth, and the terrain and climate are the same as elsewhere on the Yucatan.

But there are differences, too. The pace is slower, the crowds smaller, and the Mayan treasures more undiscovered than other world-famous sites in Mexico such as Chichen Itza or Tulum.

You can get to Lamanai by road, but it's much more enjoyable to split the journey in two by first driving for an hour north from Belize City and then taking a small boat another hour up the historic trade route of the New River, splashing past exotic wading birds, baby alligators, sleeping bats and the occasional fishermen waiting patiently for a nibble.

Just before you arrive at Lamanai, you'll get a first glimpse of grey-black stones poking just above the tree line along the river. But it's not until you follow the short trail inland that you'll realize how enormous this majestic Mayan ruin is.

The High Temple alone is 35 metres, or 10 storeys, tall. Nearby is the Temple of the Jaguar Masks, the Mask Temple, and the Ball Court, all of which are must-sees with hardly any crowds. Wait for just a minute or less and you can find yourself all alone — lost in thought about what life was like here long ago.

Next, move on to Stella 9 at Lamanai, which contains a part of a carving and hieroglyphs (or "glyphs") about Mayan life that the guide says is "a masterpiece carved in stone."

Suddenly the wind in the trees blows and a howling monkey makes an eerie racket that suggests perhaps one should not linger too long in this mystical place.

Reach for the top

- Unlike many Mayan ruins, visitors to Lamanai can do something that's increasingly forbidden elsewhere: climb to the very top of the ruin. It's a one-of-a-kind experience that shouldn't be missed, even if the ascent on prehistoric stone steps is somewhat perilous.

A Mayan settlement for about 3,000 years, Lamanai — which means submerged crocodile — was home for some 60,000 people and was part of a civilization whose traces can still be found in parts of modern-day Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico and Belize.

Lamanai was rediscovered in the 1970s and over the years archeologists, including Canadian David Pendergrast from the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, have been busy mapping, uncovering and decoding it all.

Learning about Lamanai and other Mayan ruins in Belize "is like peeling back the layers of an onion," explains guide Wilfredo Novelo.

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March 24, 2012

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TICO

Skip the fattening cream and butter — and rethink a classic turkey casserole

Ingredients

- 375 g (12 oz) whole-grain spaghetti, broken into pieces
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) canola oil
- 250 g (8 oz) cremini mushrooms, sliced
- 1 clove garlic, chopped
- Salt and ground black pepper, to taste
- 1 bunch asparagus, trimmed and cut into pieces
- 1 red bell pepper, cored and diced
- 10 ml (2 tsp) onion powder, divided
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) paprika, divided
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) dry sherry
- 750 ml (3 cups) cubed cooked turkey breast
- 500 ml (2 cups) fat-free half-and-half
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) instant-blend flour
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) grated Parmesan cheese
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) panko breadcrumbs
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) garlic powder
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) chopped fresh parsley

1. Heat oven to 200 C (400 F). Coat a large casserole dish with cooking spray.

2. Bring a large saucepan of salted water to a boil and cook spaghetti according to package directions. Drain and set aside.

3. In a large skillet over medium-high, heat oil. Add mushrooms and garlic, then season with salt and black pepper. Sauté until mushrooms are well browned and release all their liquid, about 10 minutes. Add asparagus and red pepper and cook for another 4 minutes.

4. Stir in 5 ml (1 tsp) of the onion powder, 5 ml (1 tsp) of the paprika and sherry. Cook for 1 minute, then remove from heat. Add turkey and set aside.

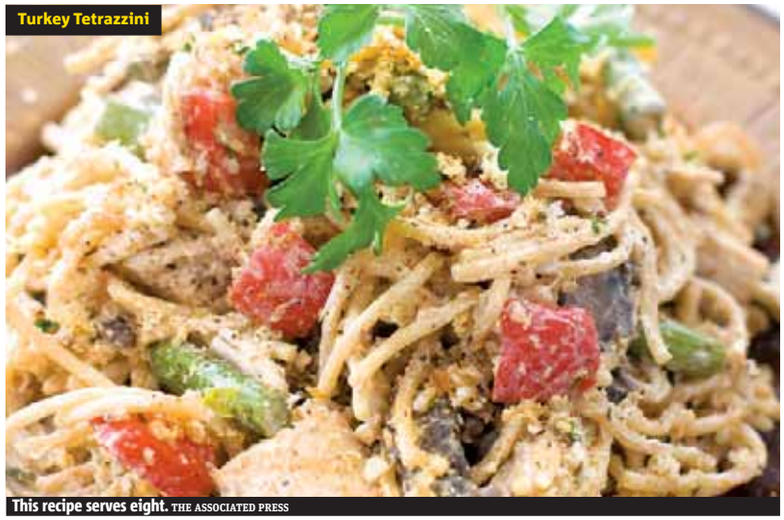
5. In a small saucepan over low heat, bring half-and-half to a simmer. Whisk in instant-blend flour, then bring to a boil. Cook until thickened, about 1 minute. Remove pan from heat and stir in Parmesan. Season with salt and pepper.

6. In a small bowl, stir together panko, garlic powder, parsley, remaining 5 ml (1 tsp) onion powder and remaining 2 ml (1/2 tsp) paprika.

7. To assemble casserole, stir cooked spaghetti and cream sauce into skillet with turkey and vegetables. Spoon mixture into prepared casserole dish, then sprinkle seasoned panko over it. Spritz top of panko crumbs with cooking spray and bake for 10 to 15 minutes or until golden.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Turkey Tetrazzini



This recipe serves eight. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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- Skyy vodka
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Muddle a starfruit in shaker. Add remaining ingredients, except sparkling wine, and shake to combine. Strain into a champagne flute. Top with sparkling wine and garnish with a slice of starfruit.

SKYY SPIRITS

Savoury turkey crêpes ideal for light lunch

1. In large bowl, make well in flour. In second bowl, whisk eggs, milk, stock, oil and melted butter. Pour liquid into flour and blend using a wire whisk. Add parsley and cheese, cover and refrigerate for 15 minutes.

2. Heat oil in skillet over medium heat. Add onion and oregano and sauté. Add turkey and brown. Add mushrooms, sage and peppers and sauté 5 minutes. Add mushroom soup and broth and bring to a boil. Set heat to low.

3. Heat oiled pan over medium-low heat. Cook, set aside. Divide turkey mixture among 16 crepes. Place filling on each crepe and roll. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ingredients

Crêpe Batter

- 500 ml (2 cups) flour
- 8 eggs
- 250 ml (1 cup) milk
- 250 ml (1 cup) chicken or vegetable stock
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) vegetable oil
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) melted butter
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) chopped parsley
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) Parmesan cheese, plus extra for serving
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- Cooking oil

Turkey Filling

- 30 ml (2 tbsp) olive oil
- 1 small onion, diced
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) oregano
- 750 g (1 1/2 lb) turkey breast, cut into strips
- 250 ml (1 cup) button mushrooms
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) chopped fresh sage
- 250 ml (1 cup) sliced red peppers
- 250 ml (1 cup) sliced orange peppers
- 2 cans (each 284 ml/10 oz) cream of mushroom soup
- 500 ml (2 cups) chicken broth
- Salt and pepper, to taste

Turkey with Soba. Try this tasty nutritional powerhouse for lunch

Ingredients

- 250 g (8 oz) soba noodles
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) vegetable oil
- 1 pkg (350 g) extra firm tofu, patted dry and cut into cubes
- 250 g (1/2 lb) boneless, skinless turkey breast, thinly sliced
- 1 red bell pepper, sliced
- 1 head broccoli, cut into florets
- 1 head bok choy, sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) crushed red pepper flakes
- 250 ml (1 cup) turkey or chicken broth
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) smooth peanut butter
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) rice vinegar
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) soy sauce
- Fresh peanuts, for garnish

1. In pot of boiling water, cook noodles for about 5 minutes; drain well.

2. In large non-stick skillet heat oil over medium-high heat. Brown tofu and transfer to a plate. Add turkey to skillet and cook for about 2 minutes per side. Transfer to plate. Add red pepper, broccoli, bok choy, garlic, red pepper flakes and broth to skillet. Cover and cook for about 3 minutes.

3. Whisk together peanut butter, rice vinegar and soy sauce. Add turkey, tofu and noodles to vegetables. Stir in peanut butter mixture and cook, stirring until noodles are well coated.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Andrew Johnson has the job you wanted when you were six years old

LEGO legend. For this young man, the building blocks to success have been bright, shiny and stackable

MONICA WEYMOUTH
Metro World News in Philadelphia

Evidently, confidence in your ability will help you stand out from some tough competition. ISTOCK

As the new Master Model Builder of LEGOLAND Discovery Center Chicago, 23-year-old Andrew Johnson designs 3D LEGO models for the families that visit.

Last week, he completed his first display since starting full-time at the beginning of the month.

"I just made a cardinal — that's the state bird of Illinois," he tells us. "It's a lot of fun to be able to design something and watch it come into creation so fast."

Plenty of aspects of the job could be described as "a lot of fun," which is why the position isn't easy to come by. There are only four master model builders in the U.S. and an additional eight abroad. Johnson landed the gig after competing against eight other finalist applicants in a "build-off," during which he created a replica of Chicago's Daley Plaza Picasso sculpture, a model of the Lorax using less than 40 LEGO pieces and an especially tricky audience-member request: a violin and a hands-free harmonica.

For now, Johnson — who is one credit shy of a degree in history from DePaul University — isn't concerned with big-picture career questions or especially eager to join his friends in the cubicles.

"It's one of the only toys I can think of that you don't grow out of," Johnson says of LEGOs. "I'm going to stay here as long as I'm having fun — which I can see being a long time."

Piece by piece

His building style

Johnson has been playing with LEGOs since he was a child, but sharpened his skills while working at a camp where the toys were used to teach architecture and engineering. "There are people who have a lot of kits, but I'm more of a free-builder – I haven't used instructions in a long time," he says. "I don't buy kits, just the basic building blocks. It's a lot of trial and error."

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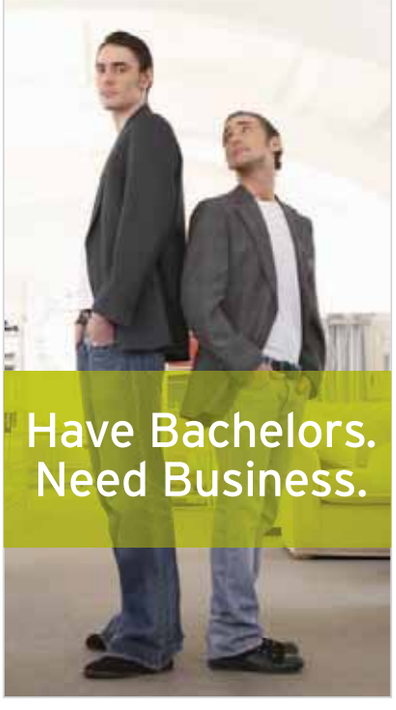

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Shopping around for the perfect job

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JOSÉ GONZALEZ
Talentegg.ca

Showing off your design skills while indulging your love of shopping – could it get any better? ISTOCK

Several streams of employment are available to students and recent grads seeking access into the retail industry, each one offering unique opportunities and requiring specific skill sets.

The opportunities within each of these streams cater to a wide variety of disciplines. Depending on your interests, there are positions within the retail industry in everything from fashion to business to marketing to interior decorating to industrial engineering and more!

There is a huge amount of variety within the retail industry and success involves the understanding of how all the individual pieces fit together.

Logistics and supply chain management

This is the essential role of getting products from suppliers through distribution centres and into the customers' hands. Being able to manage these interconnected parts becomes a greater concern as the size of the retailer increases.

Much of the knowledge required for this includes planning supply routes, finding affordable methods of transportation and ensuring there are never too many — or too few — of each product in stores.

Merchandising, marketing and sales

This can include buying, category management, inventory analysis, planning and allocation, marketing co-ordination, sales management, business development and loss prevention.

This particular area has made significant advancements in recent years and can vary considerably between individual retailers.

Technological advancements have allowed massive amounts of data to be collected, and currently the major issue is determining the most effective way of analyzing that data.

Having a background or familiarity with interpreting statistics is valuable here. Knowledge of the customers is key to these positions and being able to interpret that data will help further that goal

Operations management

These roles may include district or store management, and require a wide range knowledge and abilities.

They can include recruiting and hiring employees, managing inventories, implementing promotional strategies, and many other skill sets which vary across retailers.

These operations are the core of the business and where most of the actual money is made. The skills required for these positions can vary considerably depending on the retail outlet. However, a strong knowledge of the retailer's customer base and the products are key.

General corporate

These positions are ones most commonly shared by all businesses, such as IT, accounting and human resources. Within retail, the human resources role may exist at the corporate level or in field roles that require HR management across regions, or in large store locations.

Much of these particular corporate aspects of the retail industry are focused upon in business courses and operate in the same way. This area is often considered to be the more 'traditional' aspect of the industry.

An essential ingredient

Getting a job in the retail industry is not as straightforward as some, but here is one all-important tip:

- **Know the company.** Know its history, price points and competition. Visiting the stores (if possible) to look at and think critically about their assortment. Know where they sit in the industry. In addition, Alan Gryn, a director in the strategy and business improvement team at Sears, suggests trying to see if you can speak to any employees. Understand the difference between WalMart and Winners. WalMart is a discount store and Winners is off-price. Discount stores buy product at the same cost as everyone else but take lower markups.

Mira Saraf, Talentegg.ca

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LAUREN STEIN
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There are a number of designations and certifications that students and recent graduates should think about as they pursue careers in the retail industry. The Canadian Retail Institute (RCI) (which is directly related to the Retail Council of Canada (RCC)) offers two certifications for entry level and first level managerial roles in order to standardize the recognition of great work:

Certified Retail Sales Associate (CRSA)
This certification provides an extra layer of training and education that will round out your sales associate experience. The course covers topics like communication, inventory and professionalism, all of which can be a great base for any level of retail job. This certification is recognized nationally, which means it will be applicable to any Retail Sales Associate position you can get your hands on. It shows a potential employer that you're a determined and dedicated professional with a full-spectrum skill set and an obvious asset to any retail team.

Certified Retail First Level Manager (CFLM)
Specifically geared toward those who are already first level managers, this course provides a business backbone to those who may not have that background with their education. Topics include human resources, administration, leadership and many other important aspects of sales. You may already have the goods of a great leader, in which case completing this certification would get you noticed, not to mention a good source of information you might not have in your arsenal already.

Moola matters

Average retail salaries

- **Sales Representative.** $24,000-$28,000
- **Buyer.** $39,166-$68,274
- **Assistant Manager.** $30,000-$55,000
- **Retail Analyst.** $40,594-$71,144
- **Operations Director.** $54,102-$154,252

Compiled by Elle Kamensky

Twitter

@TalentEgg: Have you ever worked in #retail? What skills did you learn?

@Teresa_Kwon
asking questions about customer needs and recommending products rather than pushing certain brands!

@wtscrackolackin
All I #need2succeed in Retail: communication + teamplayer + leadership b/c someone's got to #getit-done #retailweek

@purohitdarshan1
how to interact with people of different tempraments

@kamadeep
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Titanic teachings: A league of lessons

True story. Educators attempt to balance tragic and triumphant aspects of famous event as Titanic's centennial approaches

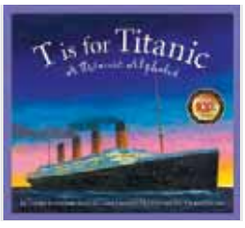
Eleven-year-old John Payne has been a student of the Titanic since kindergarten. He has scrupulously researched the ship, built a model out of LEGO freehand and successfully lobbied his fifth-grade teacher in suburban Chicago to let him mark the disaster's centennial with a multimedia presentation for his class.

What's not to like? There's mystery, high technology and heroes. Sunken treasure, conspiracy theories and jarring tales of rich versus poor.

But there's also death, lots of it, and that has some parents, teachers and writers of children's books balancing potentially scary details with more palatable, inspirational fare focused on survivors, animals on board or the mechanics of shipbuilding.

John "doesn't ask questions about the dead and other darker aspects" of what went on that moonless night in the North Atlantic," said his mother, Virginia Tobin Payne.

"He's a sensitive kid. We try to temper all of it so it doesn't become an obsession," she said. "After the anniversary passes, I hope we can sort of close the book on him looking for more information about it."



Remembering the good

"The goal was to remember what the people on board contributed, not so much what happened to them."

Debbie Shoulders, author of T is for Titanic

Barry Denenberg struggled with how to depict the horror in his new book Titanic Sinks! The sepia-tone hardcover, written as a mock magazine, was released ahead of the April 14 anniversary and has already made it into schools. The book, from Viking, is intended for kids nine and older and doesn't hold back much as it blends fact and fiction for a meticulous, realistic feel that draws on the official record.

Titanic enthusiast John Marcus Payne shows off his LEGO model of the Titanic cruise ship in Glencoe, Ill. CHARLES REX ARBOGAST/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"There's only one little line in the book about how most of the people froze to death. They did not drown," Denenberg said. "Hypothermia is a much longer death. I had to make a decision about what's accurate and what's ghoulish."

Debbie Shoulders teaches eighth-grade English in Clarksville, Tenn., but her new T is for Titanic alphabet book from Sleeping Bear Press is intended for far younger children.

"The word 'died' doesn't appear often in the book," she said. "We softened it with 'perished' or 'did not live.' The goal was to remember what the people on board contributed, not so much what happened to them."

Tracey Friedlander in Bethesda, Md., has a Titanic-obsessed nine-year-old, but she doesn't shy away from the rough stuff.

She thinks the story offers teachers and parents perfect real-life lessons on perseverance, loyalty, the dangers of arrogance and the shortcomings of technology as kids learn to sort out the complexities of their own lives.

"Kids like Kade have grown up in the shadows of 9-11, the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and a red, yellow, green terrorist alert colour-code system," Friedlander said. "Like most of us, he's trying to make sense of the world around him and the accompanying human tragedies. The Titanic happens to present an incredible learning opportunity for curious minds."

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NHL

Shoulder surgery ends Hall's season

Edmonton Oilers forward Taylor Hall is done for the season.

The team said Tuesday the 20-year-old will undergo surgery on his left shoulder.

Hall hasn't played since March 17 after suffering a concussion early in a 3-1 win over the Calgary Flames.

Oilers general manager Steve Tambellini says Hall will spend five to six months recovering.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Taylor Hall
DALE MACMILLAN/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Olympic trials

Torontonian breaks 400-metre swimming mark

Toronto's Brittany MacLean lowered one of the longest standing national records in the books, winning the women's 400-metre freestyle Tuesday to open the Canadian Olympic swimming trials.

MacLean finished in four minutes 6.08 seconds to lower the previous mark of 4:07.32 set by Brittany Reimer of Vancouver at the 2005 world championships in Montreal.

Savannah King of Vancouver also went under the Olympic qualifying standard in 4:07.02.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto's Joey Crabb tries to clear the puck from Jussi Rynnas' crease at the Air Canada Centre Tuesday. VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Leafs' playoff hopes end with a whimper

NHL. Toronto falls out of contention with 10th-straight loss at ACC

The precipitous fall of the Toronto Maple Leafs is complete.

A 3-0 loss to the Carolina Hurricanes on Tuesday night officially eliminated the Leafs from playoff contention in the Eastern Conference, extending the franchise-worst streak to seven seasons.

It was only fitting that the final blow came on home ice. Hours after new coach Randy Carlyle called the team's play at Air Canada Centre "unacceptable," they fell behind 3-0 early in the second period and lost their 10th-straight game in front of the disgruntled home fans.

The building began to empty long before the final horn sounded on Cam Ward's 21st career shutout. The Hurricanes goalie finished with 32 saves.

Jussi Jokinen, Tim Brent and Jay Harrison scored goals for Carolina (31-31-15), which kept its slim playoff hopes alive for another day.

The Maple Leafs saw their record fall to 33-35-9 after being shut out for the seventh time this season. Four of those have come in the past 10 games.

There was very little suspense on a night that saw Carolina grab a 2-0 lead in the first period. Leafs starter Jonas Gustavsson was deep in his net on both shots, allowing Jokinen to beat him with a back-hander at 13:05 and Brent to roof a shot at 18:19.

The second goal brought on boos that would only intensify when Harrison floated a shot past Gustavsson 37 seconds into the second period.

Carlyle responded by sending in Jussi Rynnas for the first NHL action of his career.

The Leafs attempted to come on from there — outshooting the Hurricanes 12-7 in the middle period — but the damage was already done and Ward wasn't going to be beaten. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tuesday's game

Hurricanes	Leafs
3	0

Reimer injured

Maple Leafs goalie James Reimer has been sidelined with an upper-body injury.

- Reimer took the morning skate Tuesday and was expected to start against the Hurricanes.
- There was no immediate word on what caused the injury. Jussi Rynnas was called up on an emergency basis from the Toronto Marlies.

NBA. Raptors' Bayless likely done for season

Toronto guard Jerryd Bayless is expected to miss the rest of the season after suffering a partially torn left oblique muscle, the Raptors reported Tuesday.

Bayless left Toronto's game versus Orlando Monday in the second quarter and did not return. He underwent tests Tuesday at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital.

Bayless, in his second season with Toronto, has averaged 11.4 points, 3.8 assists and 22.7 minutes per game.

He started five games from March 11-17, averaging 21.8 points and 7.6 assists, shooting .543 per cent from the field and .571 per cent from three-point range.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jerryd Bayless
MIKE LAWRIE/GETTY IMAGES FILE

NFL. Saints turn attention to coaching

Sean Payton has planned the New Orleans Saints' off-season program, done some work on the upcoming draft and jotted down ideas for the start of training camp.

And now, with his season-long suspension set to begin Sunday, Payton is checking to see if mentor Bill Parcells would run the team while he serves his penalty for allowing a Saints assistant coach and players to run a bounty system.

Payton said Tuesday he will soon decide whether to appeal his suspension, something commissioner Roger Goodell has said he can do through Monday.

Payton also said he was meeting with Parcells — who lives near the site of this week's NFL meetings in Palm Beach, Fla. — to discuss the plan for the season.

"For me to be down here, if I didn't call him or try to set up a time to see him, I'd probably get his wrath," Payton said.

Payton said he, general manager Mickey Loomis — who is facing an eight-game suspension — and team owner Tom Benson are weighing a number of scenarios.

Among them: Does Parcells want to coach?

"I think it would just be considering all options, to be fair and really trying to do our homework on each option before making a decision," Payton said.

If Payton appeals, Goodell said he would "probably" allow him to continue working past the intended start of his suspension. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"You're disappointed. You're disappointed in yourself that it got to this point."

Saints coach Sean Payton on his season-long suspension.

4 SPORTS

Quoted

"I'd be lying through my teeth if I said there wasn't a risk. Of course there are health concerns, of course there's risk.... But I'll take the risk on the right human being; you bet on the human being and you're going to be fine."

Blue Jays general manager Alex Anthopoulos on Tuesday after signing pitcher Dustin McGowan to a deal that pays the right-hander $1.5 million US per season in 2013 and 2014 with a club option for 2015 worth $4 million. McGowan — currently day-to-day with plantar fasciitis in his right foot — has yet to prove his shoulder troubles are fully behind him and has pitched only 21 major-league innings since 2008.

On the web

Canadian figure-skating star Patrick Chan says if not for a move to Colorado before the 2010 Vancouver Olympics, he thinks he "would have quit." Now he's a gold-medal favourite going into this week's world championships in France. Scan the code for the story.

Sony Ericsson Open. Nadal reaches quarter-finals

Rafael Nadal swept five consecutive games midway through the match, propelling him to a 6-4, 6-4 win over Kei Nishikori to reach the quarter-finals at the Sony Ericsson Open on Tuesday.

The victory was by far Nadal's most taxing of the tournament, and he took a medical timeout late in the opening set for treatment of his troublesome left knee. Even so, he's one round closer to his first Key Biscayne title.

"I am not probably in perfect condition today with the left knee," he said. "But the important thing is to try to win as many matches as possible. For me this is an important tournament, and every victory has very, very big value for me, especially without being perfect."

Nadal, a three-time runner-up at Key Biscayne, lost the final last year to Novak Djokovic, and they could meet again Sunday. The top-ranked Djokovic reached the final eight by beating No. 17-seeded Richard Gasquet 7-5, 6-3.

No. 2 Maria Sharapova became the first semifinalist when she drubbed reigning French Open champion Li Na 6-3, 6-0. Sharapova had lost their previous four meetings.

Rafael Nadal
WILFREDO LEE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"I just really wanted to change that," she said, "so I was extremely focused and, you know, looking forward to the match."

Nadal has been bothered by his knee since Indian Wells, where he lost to Roger Federer in the semifinals two weeks ago. Nine games into his match against Nishikori, Nadal called a medical timeout and had a trainer tape his leg.

That's when the momentum swung. In the next game, Nadal took the opening set with a service break when Nishikori sailed an easy forehand long. The Spaniard broke again as he raced to a 3-love lead in the second set.

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TFC's Joao Plata looks at the ball after missing a pass in front of the goal during the MLS season home opener between Toronto FC and San Jose Earthquake at BMO Field on Saturday. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Toronto FC looks to steady ship after losses

Setbacks. TFC faces off against the leaders of Mexico's premier division on Wednesday

Just two weeks ago, Toronto FC recorded the biggest victory in club history.

Since that stunning 2-1 road win over the Los Angeles Galaxy to become the first Canadian team to move into the semifinals of the CONCACAF Champions League, the euphoria has diminished. Dramatically.

The Reds lost their Major League Soccer season-opener — and more importantly their captain, Torsten Frings, to injury — in Seattle three nights later. That was followed up last weekend with goalkeeper Stefan Frei breaking his leg in training on the eve of an ugly 3-0 home loss to San Jose.

Fresh off those setbacks, TFC faces Santos Laguna, the leaders of Mexico's premier division, on Wednesday in the opening leg of the Champions League semifinal.

"Spirits are high," Reds striker Ryan Johnson insisted after the club trained at BMO Field Tuesday. "We didn't come this far to mess it up.

"I know the last two games were disappointing but we worked hard to get here and we're not just going to bow out like that," said Johnson, who leads Toronto with five goals in 10 Champions League matches.

Santos, winners of four straight league games by a combined score of 11-3, is a quick, attacking side. That raises alarm bells for the Reds, who have conceded six goals in their last two matches and have seemed lost, particularly at the back, since losing Frings, their on-field general.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

By the numbers

11

History is against TFC. MLS teams have lost 11 straight series against Mexican sides in this continental club competition, the latest coming earlier this month when Seattle led their quarter-final with Santos 2-1 after the first leg, only to get crushed 6-1 in Mexico, losing 7-3 on aggregate.

Quoted

"It's the heart that's on the field, not what kind of players are playing."

Toronto FC goalkeeper Milos Kocic, hoping for an upset against a Santos team that spends many times the amount on players' salaries that ewwwwwwww does.

Japan. Mariners, Athletics tour disaster zone

Young Japanese baseball players play with Stomper, the Oakland Athletics mascot, during a baseball clinic by major leaguers of the Athletics and the Seattle Mariners at Ishinomaki Municipal Baseball Stadium in tsunami-hit Ishinomaki on Tuesday. KOJI SASAHARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Members of the Oakland Athletics and Seattle Mariners got a firsthand look at the devastation from the earthquake and tsunami on Tuesday when they visited one of the towns hit hardest by last year's disaster in Japan.

Eight players and coaches from the Mariners and Athletics went to Ishinomaki on the northeast coast and later put on a baseball clinic for students affected by the catastrophe.

More than 19,000 people in Japan were killed by the disaster on March 11, 2011. About 46 per cent of Ishinomaki, a city of 150,000, was inundated by up 32 feet of water.

Major League Baseball made a donation of $500,000 to the city to help in reconstruction efforts. The teams are in Japan to open MLB's 2012 season with games on Wednesday and Thursday at Tokyo Dome.

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d-Boston	75	44	28	1	2	244	184	91	22-13-1-1	22-15-0-1	5-5-0-0	W2
d-Florida	75	36	24	5	10	186	206	87	20-9-1-9	16-15-4-1	5-2-0-3	L3
x-Pittsburgh	76	47	23	3	3	256	200	100	27-9-2-0	20-14-1-3	7-2-1-0	L1
x-Philadelphia	76	44	24	2	6	241	213	96	21-12-1-4	23-12-1-2	6-3-0-1	L1
New Jersey	77	43	28	2	4	208	201	92	21-13-0-4	22-15-2-0	5-4-0-1	W1
Ottawa	77	39	28	6	4	236	227	88	20-15-2-2	19-13-4-2	5-3-0-2	W2
Buffalo	77	38	29	4	6	202	210	86	20-11-3-5	18-18-1-1	7-1-0-2	W5
Washington	77	38	31	4	4	206	219	84	24-11-2-2	14-20-2-2	5-3-1-1	L1
Winnipeg	76	35	33	4	4	205	223	78	23-12-1-3	12-21-3-1	4-6-0-0	L2
Tampa Bay	75	35	33	4	3	214	255	77	23-14-1-1	12-19-3-2	4-5-1-0	W3
Carolina	77	31	31	9	6	205	228	77	19-13-1-5	12-18-8-1	6-4-0-0	W1
NY Islanders	76	32	33	7	4	185	227	75	15-16-5-1	17-17-3-2	5-3-1-1	W2
Toronto	77	33	35	4	5	217	242	75	16-15-3-4	17-20-1-1	3-5-0-2	L2
Montreal	76	29	34	4	9	197	211	71	14-15-2-7	15-19-2-2	4-3-2-1	L1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
dx-St. Louis	76	47	20	1	8	196	147	103	29-4-1-3	18-16-0-5	6-2-0-2	W1
y-Vancouver	76	46	21	2	7	230	187	101	22-10-0-4	24-11-3-2	5-4-1-0	W3
d-San Jose	76	39	27	5	5	210	196	88	24-12-2-1	15-15-3-4	6-3-1-0	W3
x-Detroit	76	46	25	3	2	237	187	97	30-5-1-1	16-20-2-1	3-5-2-0	W2
Nashville	76	44	24	3	5	219	199	96	24-9-2-3	20-15-1-2	6-3-0-1	W2
Chicago	77	42	26	4	5	231	222	93	26-8-1-4	16-18-3-1	6-2-0-2	L2
Dallas	76	41	30	1	4	202	202	87	22-14-0-3	19-16-1-1	6-4-0-0	L1
Phoenix	77	37	27	3	10	200	202	87	19-13-2-4	18-14-1-6	4-2-0-4	L2
Los Angeles	76	37	27	5	7	175	165	86	21-14-0-4	16-13-5-3	6-4-0-0	L2
Colorado	78	40	32	4	2	201	207	86	22-15-1-1	18-17-3-1	5-3-1-1	L3
Calgary	77	35	27	6	9	191	212	85	21-10-1-5	14-17-5-4	5-1-2-2	W1
Anaheim	76	32	33	5	6	191	212	75	20-17-2-0	12-16-3-6	4-5-1-0	L1
Minnesota	75	31	34	2	8	159	207	72	17-15-1-3	14-19-1-5	3-7-0-0	L2
Edmonton	76	31	36	3	6	206	223	71	18-15-2-3	13-21-1-3	5-2-1-2	W2
Columbus	76	24	45	2	5	177	250	55	14-21-1-2	10-24-1-3	3-7-0-0	L2

x — clinched playoff berth; **d** — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results

Carolina 3 Toronto 0
Buffalo 5 Washington 1
New Jersey 2 Chicago 1 (SO)
N.Y. Islanders 5 Pittsburgh 3
Tampa Bay at Boston
Florida at Montreal
Nashville at St. Louis
N.Y. Rangers at Minnesota

Monday's results

Calgary 5 Dallas 4
Ottawa 6 Winnipeg 4
Vancouver 1 Los Angeles 0
Detroit 7 Columbus 2
San Jose 5 Colorado 1
Tampa Bay 5 Philadelphia 3

Tonight's games

N.Y. Rangers at Winnipeg, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Columbus, 7:30 p.m.
Los Angeles at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Dallas at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.
Colorado at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
San Jose at Anaheim, 10 p.m.

Tomorrow's games

Washington at Boston, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Florida at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
St. Louis at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
San Jose at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

HURRICANES 3, MAPLE LEAFS 0

First Period
1. Carolina, Jokinen 12 (Ruutu, Faulk) 13:05
2. Carolina, Brent 12 (Joslin, Allen) 18:19
Penalties — Harrison Car (tripping) 2:55; Franson Tor (slashing) 6:35.
Second Period
3. Carolina, Harrison 9 (Ruutu) 0:37
Penalty — Pitkanen Car (slashing) 18:50.
Third Period
No Scoring.
Penalty — Connolly Tor (hooking) 7:41.
Shots on goal by

Carolina	11	7	4	22
Toronto	5	12	15	32

Goal (shots-saves) — Carolina: Ward (W,28-23-12); Toronto: Gustavsson (L,17-17-4) (12-9), Rynnas (0:37 second; 10-10).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Carolina: 0-2; Toronto: 0-2.
Referees — Mike Leggo, Tom Kowal. **Linesmen** — Greg Devorski, Steve Barton.
Att. — 19,348 at Toronto.

MONDAY

SENATORS 6, JETS 4

First Period
1. Ottawa, Neil 12 (Spezza, Karlsson) 19:34
Penalties — Burmistrov Wpg (boarding) 1:48, Gonchar Ott (tripping) 14:57.
Second Period
2. Ottawa, Daugavins 5 (Condra, Smith) 1:53
3. Winnipeg, Miettinen 3 (Bogosian, Wellwood) 3:02
4. Winnipeg, Wellwood 16 (Kane, Hainsey) 6:54
5. Ottawa, Turris 10 (Spezza, Gonchar) 17:26
6. Winnipeg, Miettinen 4 (Slater, Glass) 17:46
Penalties — Kuba Ott (tripping) 2:38, Spezza Ott (tripping) 12:05, Enstrom Wpg (interference) 13:09, Spezza Ott (tripping) 14:56.
Third Period
7. Ottawa, Alfredsson 25 (Karlsson) 2:54
8. Winnipeg, Kane 29 (Wellwood) 17:03
9. Ottawa, Alfredsson 26 (Kuba, Turris) 17:27
10. Ottawa, Michalek 34 19:26 en
Penalties — None.
Shots on goal by

Ottawa	10	11	14	35
Winnipeg	13	17	18	48

Goal — Ottawa: Anderson (W,31-20-6). Winnipeg: Pavelec (L,28-27-7).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Ottawa: 0-2; Winnipeg: 0-4.
Referees — Dennis LaRue, Dan O'Rourke.
Linesmen — Brad Kovachik, Thor Nelson.
Attendance — 15,004 at Winnipeg.

FLAMES 5, STARS 4

First Period
1. Dallas, Benn 25 (Ott) 0:26
2. Calgary, Jokinen 22 (Stempniak, Glencross) 6:53 (pp)
Penalties — Daley Dal (high-sticking) 5:51, Giordano Cal (hooking) 8:42, Butler Cal (high-sticking) 11:17, Robidas Dal (tripping) 17:28.
Second Period
3. Dallas, Benn 26 (Burish, Pardy) 0:44
4. Calgary, Comeau 5, 9:16
5. Calgary, Cammalleri 17 (Iginla, Babchuk) 10:01
6. Dallas, Ribeiro 17 (Ryder, Goligoski) 14:29
7. Calgary, Giordano 9 (Iginla, Cammalleri) 16:58 (pp)
8. Calgary, Tanguay 13 (Cammalleri, Giordano) 19:32 (pp)
Penalties — Souray Dal (high-sticking) 2:16, Cammalleri Cal (tripping) 3:43, Ribeiro Dal (tripping) 4:40, Burish Dal (slashing), Hannan Cal (roughing) 10:30, Pardy Dal (roughing), Stempniak Cal (slashing) 13:37, Robidas Dal (tripping) 14:59, Ott Dal (tripping) 18:33.
Third Period
9. Dallas, Larsen 2 (Souray, Ott) 5:24 (pp)
Penalty — Giordano Cal (holding) 3:52.
Shots on goal by

Dallas	17	10	12	39
Calgary	13	17	5	35

Goal — Dallas: Lehtonen (L,31-18-4); Calgary: Kiprusoff (W,34-20-11).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Dallas: 1-4; Calgary: 3-6.
Referees — Dan O'Halloran, Dennis LaRue.
Linesmen — Ryan Galloway, Tim Nowak.
Att. — 19,289 (19,289) at Calgary.

CANUCKS 1, KINGS 0

First Period
1. Vancouver, Malhotra 7 (Lapierre, Edler) 3:05
Penalty — H. Sedin Vcr (hooking) 17:03.
Second Period
No Scoring.
Penalties — Clifford LA (unsportsmanlike conduct) 11:48, Mitchell LA (interference) 14:06, Booth Vcr (holding the stick) 15:27.
Third Period
No Scoring.
Penalties — Greene LA (cross checking) 1:45, Penner LA (goaltender interference) 16:37, Edler Vcr (holding) 19:34.
Shots on goal by

Los Angeles	9	12	17	38
Vancouver	5	7	13	25

Goal — Los Angeles: Quick (L,32-21-11); Vancouver: Luongo (W,29-14-8).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Los Angeles: 0-3; Vancouver: 0-4.
Referees — Frederick L'Ecuyer, Chris Lee.
Linesmen — Mark Shewchyk, Brad Lazarowich.
Att. — 18,860 at Vancouver.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Chicago	40	11	.784	—
d-Miami	35	13	.729	3½
Orlando	32	18	.640	7½
d-Philadelphia	28	22	.560	11½
Indiana	29	19	.604	9½
Atlanta	30	21	.588	10
Boston	27	22	.551	12
New York	25	25	.500	14½
Milwaukee	23	27	.460	16½
Cleveland	17	30	.362	21
Detroit	17	32	.347	22
Toronto	16	34	.320	23½
New Jersey	16	35	.314	24
Washington	11	38	.224	28
Charlotte	7	40	.149	31

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Oklahoma City	37	12	.755	—
d-San Antonio	33	14	.702	3
d-L.A. Lakers	30	19	.612	7
L.A. Clippers	28	21	.571	9
Dallas	28	22	.560	9½
Memphis	26	21	.553	10
Utah	27	23	.540	10½
Houston	27	23	.540	10½
Denver	27	23	.540	10½
Phoenix	25	24	.510	12
Minnesota	24	26	.480	13½
Portland	23	26	.469	14
Golden State	20	27	.426	16
Sacramento	17	32	.347	20
New Orleans	12	37	.245	25

d-division leader
x-clinched playoff spot

Last night's results

Philadelphia 103, Cleveland 85
Milwaukee 108, Atlanta 101
Minnesota at Memphis
Houston at Dallas
Oklahoma City at Portland
San Antonio at Phoenix
L.A. Lakers at Golden State

Monday's results

Boston 102, Charlotte 95
Indiana 105, Miami 90
Orlando 117, Toronto 101
Detroit 79, Washington 77
Utah 105, New Jersey 84
New York 89, Milwaukee 80
Denver 108, Chicago 91
Houston 113, Sacramento 106, OT
L.A. Clippers 97, New Orleans 85

Tonight's games

Detroit at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Denver at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Orlando at New York, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Utah at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
New Orleans at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Phoenix at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

LACROSSE

NLL

Sunday's results
Colorado 16 Philadelphia 15 (OT)
Washington 20 Minnesota 13
Friday, March 30
Calgary at Minnesota, 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 31
Colorado at Rochester, 1:05 p.m.
Toronto at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Washington at Calgary, 9 p.m.

MLB

SPRING TRAINING

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct
Toronto	20	4	.833
Detroit	15	5	.750
Oakland	14	5	.737
Los Angeles	15	9	.625
Seattle	12	8	.600
New York	13	10	.565
Kansas City	14	11	.560
Boston	12	10	.545
Minnesota	14	12	.538
Baltimore	10	10	.500
Chicago	11	13	.458
Texas	8	16	.333
Tampa Bay	7	15	.318
Cleveland	6	16	.273

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct
St. Louis	13	7	.650
Los Angeles	12	9	.571
San Diego	16	12	.571
San Francisco	14	11	.560
Colorado	13	11	.542
Houston	12	12	.500
Chicago	13	14	.481
Miami	9	10	.474
Philadelphia	11	13	.458
Milwaukee	10	13	.435
Arizona	10	14	.417
Atlanta	9	14	.391
Cincinnati	10	16	.385
Pittsburgh	8	15	.348
Washington	7	14	.333
New York	6	15	.286

Yesterday's results

Minnesota 5, Baltimore 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 4
Houston 14, Detroit 7
Miami 3, Washington 1
Atlanta 7, N.Y. Mets 5
Boston 8, Tampa Bay 0
Chicago Cubs 7, Cincinnati 4
Texas 10, San Diego (ss) 9
L.A. Angels 5, San Francisco 3
San Diego (ss) 6, L.A. Dodgers 5
Chicago White Sox 7, Cleveland 1
Kansas City 9, Milwaukee 7
Arizona 7, Colorado 3
Toronto 4, N.Y. Yankees 3

SOCCER

MLS

Friday, March 30
FC Dallas at D.C. United, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 31
Columbus at Toronto FC, 2 p.m.
Montreal at New York, 4 p.m.
Vancouver at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Seattle FC, 10 p.m.
Real Salt Lake at Portland, 10 p.m.
New England at Los Angeles, 11 p.m.

ENGLAND

FA CUP

Yesterday's results
Tottenham 3, Bolton 1
Replay
Sunderland 0, Everton 2

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

Yesterday's results
Ipswich 1, Middlesbrough 1
Leicester 0, Nottingham Forest 0
Peterborough 0, West Ham 2
Portsmouth 2, Hull 0
Crystal Palace 1, Doncaster 1

UEFA

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

QUARTER-FINALS
First Leg
Yesterday's results
Benfica (Portugal) 0, Chelsea (England) 1
APOEL Nicosia (Cyprus) 0, Real Madrid (Spain) 3

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BOSTON RED SOX—Optioned 1B Lars Anderson and SS Jose Iglesias to Pawtucket (IL). Reassigned RHP Justin Germano, RHP Doug Mathis and OF Josh Kroeger to minor league camp.
CHICAGO WHITE SOX—Reassigned OF Jordan Danks, INF Jim Gallagher, INF Dan Johnson, INF Dallas McPherson, C Josh Phegley and INF Tyler Saladino to their minor league camp.
CLEVELAND INDIANS—Optioned INF Lonnie Chisenhall and INF Matt Laporta to Columbus (IL). Reassigned OF Chad Huffman to their minor league camp.
MINNESOTA TWINS—Optioned RHP Jeff Manship and OF Joe Benson to Rochester (IL). Reassigned C Rene Rivera and INF Pedro Florimon to minor league camp.
NEW YORK YANKEES—Released 1B-OF Preston Mattingly.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

COLORADO ROCKIES—Released 3B Casey Blake unconditionally.
HOUSTON ASTROS—Released 1B/OF Jack Cust unconditionally and LHP Zach Duke from his minor league contract.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Optioned INF-OF Jerry Sands to their minor league camp. Placed RHP Blake Hawksworth on the 60-day DL. Selected the contract of RHP Jamey Wright.
MILWAUKEE BREWERS—Agreed to terms with C Jonathan Lucroy on a five-year contract.

BASKETBALL

NBA

SAN ANTONIO SPURS—Signed G Patrick Mills.
TORONTO RAPTORS—Signed G Ben Uzoh to a 10-day contract.

FOOTBALL

NFL

DETROIT LIONS—Agreed to terms with RB Kevin Smith on a one-year contract.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS—Re-signed LB Erin Henderson to a one-year contract. Signed CB Zack Bowman to a one-year contract.
NEW YORK JETS—Re-signed WR Scotty McKnight.

HOCKEY

NHL

FLORIDA PANTHERS—Agreed to terms with C Drew Shore and assigned him to San Antonio (AHL).
PITTSBURGH PENGUINS—Recalled D Simon Despres and D Brian Strait from Wilkes Barre/Scranton (AHL).
WASHINGTON CAPITALS—Signed D Cameron Schilling to a two-year contract.
WINNIPEG JETS—Signed D Will O'Neill.

AHL

GRAND RAPIDS GROFFINS—Signed D Ryan Sproul. Assigned D Bryan Rufenach to Toledo (ECHL). Announced D Gleason Fournier was reassigned to Toledo.
SAN ANTONIO RAMPAGE—Reassigned LW Justin Vaive to Cincinnati (ECHL).

SOCCER

MLS

MONTREAL IMPACT—Announced the retirement of D Nevio Pizzolitto.

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Anthony Davis of Kentucky cuts down the net after beating Baylor on Sunday.
STREETER LECKA/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Davis embracing spotlight

Kentucky. Top NBA draft prospect reflects on whirlwind season

Anthony Davis walked back into Kentucky's hotel in Atlanta at the South Regional when a young girl approached.

"She got on her knees and bowed down to me like I was a king and said, 'Bow to the Brow.' She was like five or six," Davis said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I just started laughing. Man, fans of all ages, Kentucky is crazy and I just love it."

Quoted

"I didn't know (success) was going to come this fast."

Kentucky forward Anthony Davis, expected by many to be a top NBA draft pick this summer.

Davis and his unibrow are a perfect fit.

He's a fun-loving teenager who has swatted away and dunked enough basketballs to become the most dominating player in the college ranks.

His steady play and calm demeanour amid the crazy fanbase makes it easy to forget he just turned 19 on March 11. He's the anchor of the Wildcats defence and a ferocious shot-blocker, leading the NCAA with 175 rejections.

The Wildcats (36-2) play in-state rival Louisville (30-9) Saturday in the Final Four for a berth in the national title game. Davis will play his usual role, saying he's fine after banging his left knee in the South Regional final against Baylor.

Along the way to New Orleans, Davis has won nearly every major award and was named to AP's All-America team this week. It's pretty heady stuff for a kid who was just six-foot-two in high school as a sophomore and trying to figure out a complicated path to the NBA.

Then, an eight-inch growth spurt turned him into the nation's most in-demand high school prospect.

With several potential first-round NBA draft picks on the Kentucky roster, Davis realizes that New Orleans will likely be the last time this group takes the floor together.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Where the ATS excels is its reasonable 1,545-kilogram curb weight. That's about 225 less than the CTS sedan (currently the only passenger car in the Cadillac garage). That's also less than most of the competition — which should help when the official fuel-consumption numbers are announced closer to launch time.

Safety first

The ATS is looking to match its competitors, stride for stride, in safety with up to 10 airbags plus an array of the latest in collision-avoidance gear.

This includes adaptive cruise control (maintains a safe distance from the vehicle in front) and lane-departure warning with blind-zone alert.

2013 Cadillac ATS

- **Type.** Four-door, rear- /all-wheel-drive compact sedan.
- **Engines (hp):** 2.5-litre DOHC I4 (200); 2.0-litre DOHC I4 (270); 3.6-litre DOHC V6 (318).
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 8.5/5.5 (2.5, est.).
- **Base Price:** $36,000.

The 270-horsepower turbo four-cylinder is found in other more mainstream GM brands.

Engine

Although the ATS will be available with a relatively potent 318-horsepower 3.6-litre V6, Cadillac is making available two different four-cylinder offerings.

Base cars get a 200-horsepower 2.5-litre four-cylinder, while a 2.0-litre turbocharged four-cylinder is optional.

Review. With boutique brands downsizing, there are hot deals on hot new cars for regular folks. This is one of them.

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

Scaling back power, size and fuel consumption without scaling back the amenities is all the rage these days.

You could say that's the new Cadillac ATS's sole purpose in life.

But would you go as far as picking an ATS over a BMW 3-Series sedan?

Or, for that matter, an Audi A4, Mercedes-Benz C-Class, Infiniti G37 or a Lexus IS? Along with their generally compact size, efficient and still-potent powerplants and luxury accommodations, all of them also offer all-wheel-drive.

Well, that's what you can expect from the ATS, which arrives this summer.

Although clearly Cadillac-looking, the stylists have done a good job scaling down the brand's visual identity.

The result conveys plenty of elegance from every angle, especially around the grille and lower air intakes at one end and the abbreviated trunk lid and vertical taillight bars at other.

The overall shape doesn't dazzle and it's far from ground-breaking, but it is quite appealing.

No prices have been announced, but to maintain a certain spread below the $39,000 CTS and remain competitive with its classmates, you can expect the ATS to start in the $36,000 range.

That should earn it the once-over and a double take from shoppers — luxury or not — looking to trade down in size without giving up all the comfort.

5 DRIVE

Top Gear

A flare with flair

The days of carrying around traditional emergency flares might be nearing an end, especially when you take a look at the features of the GorillaTorch Flare from Joby, Inc. This little guy costs about $35 US and projects a bright white beam from its light emitting diode (LED) or a red light from its three red LEDs. The GorillaTorch Flare uses three AA batteries that provide about 20 hours of white light, 80 hours of strobing light or 60 hours of red light (240 hours of strobing red). If that seems like a lot of time, it is because LEDs take less power than the usual filament-style bulbs found in conventional flashlights. The light attaches to just about any surface since the three feet are magnetized and can be pretzelled around other not magnetic surfaces, which means it also doubles as a bright work light or a light for the backyard or campground. Read more about GorillaTorch Flare at joby.com.

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Ion had coupe looks with sedan utility

Second Gear.
2003 to 2007
Saturn Ion

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Drive@metronews.ca

Ion was produced from 2003 to 2007 in either coupe or sedan body styles, replacing the "S" series in Saturn's lineup.

The coupe offered easy backseat access for people or pets by way of a useful set of "suicide" doors. Tucked in behind the front doors, these smaller openings allowed easier access to the rear seats while maintaining the looks of a coupe.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Engine

Four-cylinder ECOTEC engines were fitted to all models, including a 2.4-litre unit with 170 horsepower. Look for automatic, manual or continually variable transmissions. Avoid the latter.

What Owners Like

Coupe looks combined with sedan utility are among the strong points stated by Ion Coupe owners. Selection, fresh styling and overall value were also rated highly, as was ride comfort.

What Owners Dislike

Complaints typically include a "cheap" feel to the cabin trim and limited rear-seat space for larger adults.

Common Issues

Listen for any unusual or sporadic rattling sounds from under the hood, which could be caused by loose exhaust manifold bolts. This isn't a huge issue if diagnosed properly.

Check for proper and quiet operation from the climate-control fan and temperature controls. A ticking noise when the fan is working could be caused by a loose or broken cover. Ensure the power sunroof is working, along with the turn signals. Note that a lumpy or awkward idle could be caused by a malfunction in the engine computer, which would require reprogramming to fix. Finally, avoid the CVT transmission — which was axed from the powertrain lineup due to reliability issues.

Verdict

Avoid a used Ion model with the CVT transmission, and you'll likely enjoy a unique, cheap-to-run compact car with affordable pricing and a good sense of style.

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The tachometer on a Honda CR-Z shows the redline area. HONDA CANADA

Redline: Your car's keeping an eye on it

Driving Force. Owners of most modern cars no longer have to worry about the once all-important r.p.m.

JIL MCINTOSH
Drive@metronews.ca

If your car has a tachometer, it may also have a red mark around the higher numbers. It's a warning, appropriately named "redline," but thanks to new auto technologies, it's not as dangerous as it used to be.

"Redline is the maximum rotational speed at which the engine can be operated," says Hayato Mori, manager of production planning for Honda Canada.

"Nothing is indestructible. Everything has its limits."

Engines contain pistons that move up and down, powered by the force of gasoline igniting. This movement turns a heavy crankshaft, similar to the way your legs work the pedals on a bicycle. The crankshaft's spinning motion eventually turns the wheels.

The crankshaft's motion is measured in revolutions per minute, or r.p.m. It's also called the "engine speed" and is indicated by the needle on the tachometer. The engine speed will go up or down depending on how fast you're going or what gear you're in. The crankshaft is very strong, but it does have its limits.

"If you spin (a crankshaft) fast enough, it will create a vibration," Mori says.

"If the vibration is too great, it will start to affect the structure and operation of the engine. You have a heavy piston head supported by a rod, and it will get to a point where you will damage the rod."

The damage in that worst-case scenario could possibly mean complete engine failure. Fortunately, modern cars are equipped to prevent such a problem. If the engine speed goes to redline, the car's control system takes over, cutting back on the throttle and immediately dropping to a safe r.p.m.

That intervention is more likely with a manual transmission, where it's possible for the driver to keep the car in a lower gear while revving the engine, potentially putting it into the danger zone. Cars with automatic transmissions also have the throttle cut-off system, but are less likely to need it, since they will shift to a higher gear once the r.p.m. rises sufficiently.

Redline is more of a problem on older cars, which may not have a fail safe, and drivers have to be careful to keep the engine below the warning area.

Some drivers like to run each gear to the allowable maximum for a racy feel, "but we don't recommend it because in the long range, it won't be good for the engine," Mori says.

"Every machine has its operating parameter, and when we put those red lines on the tachometer, we do it for a reason."

Redline facts

- Because cars now have computer-controlled systems to prevent redline damage, some don't have a red warning line on the tachometer anymore.
- Just to be on the safe side, the automakers put the redline a little low, but it's still best to keep your engine speed below it.

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Tesla's model 'S'itizen

Autoknow. Electric cars are on the fringe for some automakers, while Tesla's very existence depends on them. Maybe that's why this sleek new hatchback with a 480-kilometre range seems so natural.

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

Whether we wanted it, the age of the electric car is upon us and their numbers are slowly growing. While most of the better-known brands are being built by mainstream automakers such as General Motors, Ford, Nissan and Mitsubishi, perhaps the best out-of-the-box thinking is coming from boutique automakers.

In this group is Tesla Motors, a Palo Alto, Calif., company founded by Elon Musk, creator of online money-transfer system Pay Pal.

Tesla (named for electrical development pioneer Nikola Tesla) has, since 2006, sold more than 2,100 of its $125,000-plus two-seater Roadster model. But, as a company spokesman explained at the North American International Auto Show in January, the Lotus Elise-based sports car's true importance was as a test bed for Tesla's electric powertrain technology. The next phase in the brand's development is the Model S four-door sedan, which will launch this summer. The car is being constructed at a plant in Fremont, Calif., that had been jointly operated by General Motors and Toyota.

By the numbers

$105,400

Model S pricing in the United States before government rebates runs from $57,400 to $105,400, but there's no word yet on what Canadians will pay.

Like all Tesla vehicles, the Model S operates on electric power only. It does not use a gasoline engine to generate electrical energy, as is the case with the Chevrolet Volt, which lacks the Model S's electric range. It's a highly unique vehicle on several fronts.

The aluminum-bodied, full-size four-door hatchback is roughly the same size as BMW's 5-series hatchback. However, the Model S design has more luggage space with the 60:40 back seat up or folded, not including an additional storage area under the hood.

Under the hood? Well, the 306-horsepower electric motor is actually positioned between the rear wheels, while the liquid-cooled lithium-ion battery layout unobtrusively forms part of a rigid platform that connects to the front and rear suspension.

Inside, the Model S can seat five adults plus two pint-sized, rear-facing passengers in the optional fold-up third row, not unlike those old station wagons of the 1950s and '60s.

Tesla claims the 40 kilowatt/hour (kWh) batteries in the base model are good for up to about 255 kilometres on a full charge. The range increases to about 365 kilometres if the 60 kWh powerpack is specified, while 480 kilometres is attainable with the 85-kWh option.

The Model S is designed by Franz von Holzhausen, who also designed the Saturn Sky and Pontiac Solstice roadsters. PHOTOS FROM WHEELBASE MEDIA

Performance is also affected, depending on the battery pack selected. Zero-to-60-m.p.h. (96 km/h) times vary from 6.5 seconds for the 40 kWh cars, to 5.6 seconds for the 85 kWh batteries (dropping to 4.4 seconds when the Performance version is specified).

Top speed runs 175-200 km/h, again depending on battery capacity, but driving the Model S with a heavy foot will certainly curtail its advertised range. The Model S lacks a conventional transmission, but instead uses a controller to initiate forward and reverse.

As with other electrics, charging the Model S can be accomplished by plugging into a standard 120-volt wall outlet from a port hidden behind the driver's-side taillight. Tesla says that each hour of charging gives the car about 50 kilometres of range, but that doubles when the optional 240-volt high-power wall connector is used. At that rate, a full charge for the 85 kWh model should be all wrapped up in about five hours.

Buy a fully-decked-out 85 kWh Model S and Tesla says you'll be able to access its new network of "Superchargers throughout North America" to give you about 255 kilometres of range in 30 minutes of charging.

The equipment list for the base cars is near-luxury and includes a cloth interior, seven-speaker 200-watt audio system and 19-inch wheels. Leather is optional as is a panoramic glass roof, carbon-fibre trim, power liftgate and 21-inch wheels.

The front passenger zone is dominated by a vertical 17-inch touch-screen control panel that resembles an oversized iPad tablet. From there, the navigation, communications, audio system and cabin environment are activated and the Internet accessed through a built-in wireless connection.

The Model S represents Tesla's first in-house-designed vehicle and will be followed in 2014 by the Model X. That taller, roomier version of the Model S will feature dual-motor all-wheel-drive and four gull-wing-style doors, called Falcon Wings.

Unusual and unique, of course, but Tesla's clean-sheet approach to emissions-free automobile design is what separates it from just about everything else on the market.

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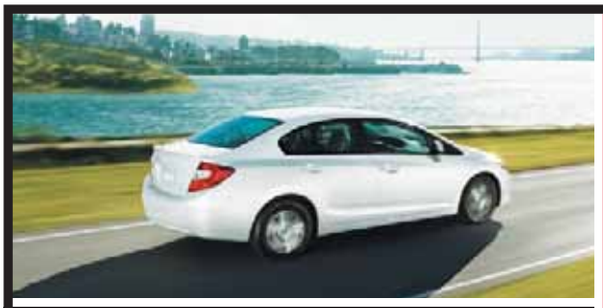

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MODEL FB2E4CEX

2012 HONDA CIVIC LX

Intelligent Multi-Information Display (i-MID) · AC with air-filtration system · Keyless entry · Bluetooth® wireless mobile phone interface · And much more!

MADE IN ONTARIO

Civic 14

BEST SELLING CAR IN CANADA 14 YEARS IN A ROW◊

TOP SAFETY PICK

2012 CIVIC SEDAN

LEASE A 2012 CIVIC LX FOR $188 @ 1.99% APR

PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS*

0 SECURITY DEPOSIT

$2,397 DOWN PAYMENT/OAC

BEST SELLING SUV IN CANADA!**

THE ALL-NEW CR-V

Yeah, it does that.

TOURING MODEL SHOWN
MODEL RM4H9CKN[S]*

2012 HONDA CR-V

NEW STANDARD FEATURES ON ALL MODELS INCLUDE:

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2012 RESIDUAL VALUE AWARD alg

ALG AWARD WINNER CANADA ^

TOP SAFETY PICK

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LEASE A 2012 CR-V LX FOR $298 @ 3.99% APR

PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS*

0 SECURITY DEPOSIT

$3,400 DOWN PAYMENT/OAC

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Ontario Honda Dealers

HONDA

*Limited time lease offers on a new 2012 Honda Civic LX Sedan with Manual Transmission (Model FB2E4CEX) // 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3CE[S]) available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. CR-V model shown is a 2012 Honda CR-V Touring (Model RM4H9CKN[S]). Representative lease example: based on a 2012 Honda Civic LX Sedan with Manual Transmission (Model FB2E4CEX) // 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3CE[S]) // 2012 Honda CR-V Touring (Model RM4H9CKN[S]) on a 48 // 48 // 48 month term at 1.99% // 3.99% // 3.99% lease APR, the monthly payment is $187.99 // $297.76 // $413.92 [includes $1,395 // $1,590 // $1,590 freight and PDI, EHF tires ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100), and OMVIC fee ($5)] with $2,397 // $3,400 // $3,400 down payment or equivalent trade-in, $0 // $0 // $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $11,420.52 // $17,692.48 // $23,268.16. 96,000-kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. For all offers: license, insurance, PPSA, and other taxes (including HST) are extra. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. Offers only valid for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers subject to change without notice. See your Ontario Honda Dealer or visit HondaOntario.com for full details. ◊Based on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) data reflecting sales between 1997 and December 2011. †9.2 city/6.6 hwy/8.1 combined L/100 km. Fuel consumption for comparison purposes only and may vary with usage and accessories. See Dealer for latest EnerGuide results published by Natural Resources Canada (when available). ‡Multi-Angle Rearview Camera with Guidelines intended to provide assistance to the driver. Always exercise appropriate care while reversing. ΔCompatible with select smartphones. Your wireless carrier's rate plans apply. Only use texting feature when conditions allow you to do so safely. ^Highest Residual Value for Compact Utility Vehicles by ALG. ALG, the industry benchmark for residual values and depreciation data, www.alg.com. **Based on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada data reflecting sales between January 4th, 2012 and February 29th, 2012.

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

Natural gas to liquid is fuel for thought

Autopilot

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Natural gas burns cleaner than crude oil fuel. ISTOCK

We've heard a lot lately about electricity's potential as an alternative fuel, but natural gas keeps hanging around the fuel discussion, like a bad gas.

But it's a good gas. North America has lots. It burns cleaner than crude oil fuel. It's relatively cheap.

But there's always a catch, isn't there?

The catch with natural gas is that it doesn't transport or store very well. People tend to build just enough pipes and storage tanks for their needs, be it home heating or municipal car and truck fleets. Any uptick in demand and use would require a commensurate increase in expensive infrastructure.

And because you can't store a lot of it, the price of natural gas is more susceptible to drops in demand. When demand drops, prices fall easily, a phenomenon that doesn't bode well for increased production and infrastructure development.

So I was struck recently by a news report stating that the biggest, baddest gasoline producer on the planet, Royal Dutch Shell, is seriously increasing its bet on natural gas.

Not only that, but this year will see it produce — for the first time — more natural gas than crude, on an oil equivalent basis. Shell also expects natural gas to continue to grow as a proportion of its production in the coming years.

Among the areas Shell intends to investigate is liquefying the gas so it compacts significantly and consequently ships easier, for possible overseas export, and more natural gas made into synthetic diesel fuel. Shell already has a big gas-to-liquids operation in Qatar.

I asked energy expert Gail Tverberg of The Oil Drum forum, Our Infinite World blog, if gas-to-liquid leans more toward science fiction than mainstream. She noted the technology is well developed, but it's expensive. Natural gas has to be significantly cooled to get into a liquid state, cooled all along its transport route, and then it needs to go back to its gaseous state before being delivered to the end user.

Converting it directly into a permanent liquid fuel, like synthetic diesel, requires very expensive processing that has so far limited its use as a transportation fuel.

"It's like any energy resource," notes Tverberg. "You take the best resource first, which tends to be cheaper. Then you go to the resources that are harder to extract or more difficult to obtain. That's what we're doing now. Natural gas is more difficult ..."

Difficult and alternative, just like a teenager. Surely at some point it has to grow up.

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Optima SX Turbo shown
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• Power Group and Much More
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DARE TO COMPARE	2012 KIA SORENTO LX AT FWD (4-CYL)	2012 Honda CR-V FWD LX 2WD (4-CYL)	2012 Ford Escape 2.5L XLT FWD (4-CYL)
Horsepower (hp)	191	185	171
Torque (lb.-ft.)	181	163	171
Towing Capacity (lbs)	1,650	1,499	1,499
Overall Interior Volume (L)*	2,987	2,949	2,818
17" Alloy Wheels	✓	✗	✗

Sorento SX shown
HWY: 6.2L/100KM CITY: 9.5L/100KM
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Offer(s) available on all new 2011/2012 models through participating dealers to qualified customers who take delivery by April 2, 2012. Dealers may sell for less. Some conditions apply. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Offers are subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details. Vehicle images shown may include optional accessories and upgrades. All offers exclude licensing, registration, insurance, applicable taxes, dealer administration fees (up to $699) and PPSA. Other dealer charges may be required at the time of purchase. Other lease and financing options also available. Certain restrictions may apply. **0% purchase financing is available on all 2011 and 2012 Kia models on approved credit (OAC). Terms vary by model and trim, see dealer for details. Financing example based on 2012 Sorento (SR75BC) with a selling price of $28,379 financed at 0% APR for 60 months. Monthly payments equal $456 with a down payment/equivalent trade of $0. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $28,379. Delivery and destination fees ($1,650), other fees ($34), OMVIC fee, Environmental Fee and A/C tax (where applicable) are included. License, insurance, applicable taxes, PPSA, and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. u"Don't Pay for 90 Days" on select models (90-day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing offers on select 2011 and 2012 models on approved credit (OAC) (2011/2012 Sportage/Sorento/Sedona/Borrego excluded). No interest will accrue during the first 60 days of the finance contract. After this period, interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay the principal interest monthly over the term of the contract. The 2011 Optima has 6500 Kms.

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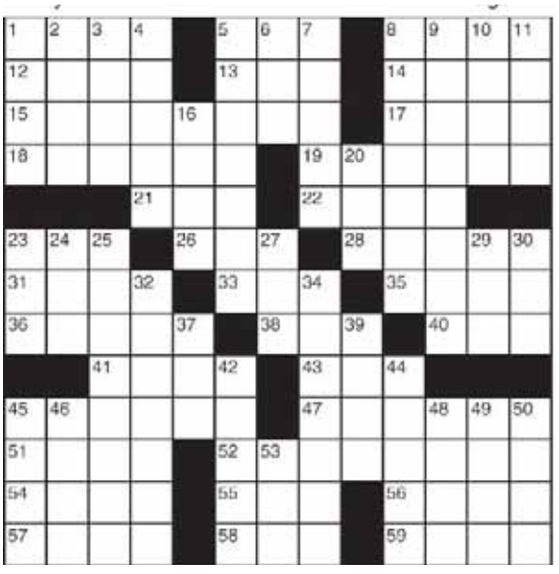
Crossword



Across

1 Comic strip penguin
5 Witness
8 Slightly
12 Kate's role in "Titanic"
13 Luau bowlful
14 Bro
15 Very active
17 Capri, e.g.
18 Overexert
19 It's handy if you have to break your word
21 — -la-la
22 Roger Rabbit, e.g.
23 "Great!"
26 Performance
28 Exhaust
31 Egg
33 Kangaroo's move
35 Betty's "Hot in Cleveland" role
36 Frankincense or myrrh
38 Third degree?
40 Moon craft
41 Stepped (on)
43 Thing, in law
45 Meager
47 Aviatrix Earhart
51 Jason's ship
52 Profession
54 Quartet
55 Salt Lake athlete
56 Garfield's pal
57 Salamanders
58 Petrol
59 -tat-tat

Down

1 Spheres
2 Sulk
3 Cold War nation (Abbr.)
4 Attack
5 Popeye's "fuel"
6 A billion years
7 Twice 54-Across
8 Fat
9 "Sex and the City" writer Candace
10 Not working
11 Adolescent
16 Old Italian money
20 Thee
23 Supporting
24 Rd.
25 Laugh so hard it hurts
27 Upper surface
29 Guitar's cousin
30 Nonstick spray
32 Kaleidoscope components
34 Groups of words
37 Ph. bk. info
39 Ms. Moore
42 Clean, as software
44 Man of La Mancha
45 Protected
46 College teacher, often
48 Mother of Castor and Pollux
49 "— an earthquake, or ..."
50 Cruising
53 Actress Hagen

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Yesterday's answer

Sudoku

					9		4	
2	3				4	8		
	5		1			2		
	9			4	7		6	
4								2
	6		3	8			1	
		7			6		8	
		8	9				5	7
	4		7					

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer

4	8	3	9	6	7	1	2	5
7	2	1	4	8	5	6	9	3
9	6	5	1	2	3	4	7	8
1	5	4	7	9	8	2	3	6
8	3	6	2	5	4	9	1	7
2	7	9	3	1	6	5	8	4
3	1	7	6	4	9	8	5	2
6	9	8	5	7	2	3	4	1
5	4	2	8	3	1	7	6	9

Send a kiss

- **Guy From The University.** Hey! i dont even know if you read this newspaper but its worth a try! have had a crush on you for a while now! really wanna talk to you but nerves always get the best of me :(I dont know anything about you but would love to hang out and know more :) <3 <3 From Girl From The Univeristy
- **boo bity booboo.** I do love you i do, like seriously how hard is it to just send me an inbox message saying it was me, end of story, end of fighting, we dont even have to talk, i just want to KNOW this is you. I wont even add you i just need some closer. you shy, well i was too and what i sent you was for more embarassing than what im asking you to do!!! Then you justmade me feel even more crazy!!! So please. From Denny
- **Mea.** mea culpa... pls forgive me. i do care, tho i m 2shy to show it. my heart was locked in a blackbox till you cared, u may hold the key to our happiness so pls help me unlock it. mountains of regret i've carried on with a shrug, but i won't let this precious love shatter. From sad

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Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. If someone attacks your reputation today you must defend yourself.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. You can't seem to make up your mind what you should be doing with your precious time.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. You must think positive today, especially when dealing with situations where negative words could so easily lead to negative consequences.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. What you most need is close at hand but you can't seem to see it.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. Think seriously about your money situation today. The answers to your problems are not really that difficult.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. Go your own way and do your own thing today.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. You need to trust your instincts today, even when – especially when – they tell you things you don't want to hear.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. Focus only on things that are relevant to your long-term success.

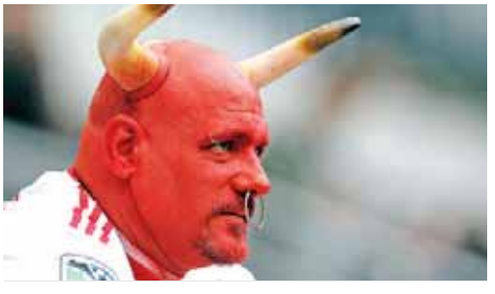
Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. You may have to make a tactical retreat today, most likely because you find yourself up against someone who is too big or to powerful for you to compete with one-to-one.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. Your mind may be working fast but can you trust what it tells you? That might sound like a strange question but while mind planet Mercury is moving retrograde it's something you need to keep asking – often.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. Cash flow problems may be causing some concern but don't let your worries get out of control.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. If you get the chance to take advantage of an opportunity that someone else has missed you must not hesitate, not even for a moment. They had their chance and blew it, now it's your turn to benefit. Cash in!

SALLY BROMPTON



Caption Contest

"Talk about bull-headed!"
Linda

JULIO CORTEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Win!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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ON SELECT MODELS

2012 OPTIMA "CAR OF THE YEAR"

MOTORING 2012

Optima SX Turbo shown

HWY: 5.7L/100KM
CITY: 8.7L/100KM

LEASE IT FROM $279* PER MONTH FOR UP TO 48 MONTHS | AT 2.9% APR

$2,675 down payment. Offer based on 2012 Optima LX M/T and includes delivery, destination and fees of $1,939.

DARE TO COMPARE	2012 KIA OPTIMA LX A/T	2012 Honda Accord SE A/T	2012 Toyota Camry LE A/T
Horsepower (hp)	200	177	178
Torque (lb.-ft.)	186	161	170
Automatic Transmission	6 Speed	5 Speed	6 Speed
Fog Lights	✓	×	×
Power Driver Seat	✓	✓	×
Heated Seats	✓	×	×

THE ALL-NEW FUEL-EFFICIENT RIO 5-DOOR "BEST SMALL CAR"

(under $20,000)

MOTORING 2012

Rio5 SX shown

HWY: 4.9L/100KM
CITY: 6.6L/100KM

LEASE IT FROM $189* PER MONTH FOR UP TO 48 MONTHS | AT 3.9% APR

$1,850 down payment. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $1,839 and $500 lease savings.

DARE TO COMPARE	2012 KIA RIO 5DR LX M/T	2012 Toyota Yaris LE M/T	2012 Ford Fiesta S M/T
Horsepower (hp)	138	106	120
Torque (lb.-ft.)	123	103	112
Fuel Economy - HWY	4.9L/100km	5.2L/100km	5.1L/100km
Power Windows	✓	×	×
Steering Wheel Audio Controls	✓	×	×
Heated Sideview Mirrors	✓	✓	×

2012 SORENTO

7 PASSENGER SEATING AVAILABLE

TOP SAFETY PICK

Sorento SX shown

HWY: 6.2L/100KM
CITY: 9.5L/100KM

0% FINANCING APR** FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS

Own it from $456 per month for 60 months. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $1,784 and $1,000 loan savings.
BASED ON A PURCHASE PRICE OF $28,379.

DARE TO COMPARE	2012 KIA SORENTO LX AT FWD (4-CYL)	2012 Honda CR-V FWD LX 2WD (4-CYL)	2012 Ford Escape 2.5L XLT FWD (4-CYL)
Horsepower (hp)	191	185	171
Torque (lb.-ft.)	181	163	171
Towing Capacity (lbs)	1,650	1,499	1,499
Overall Interior Volume (L)*	2,907	2,949	2,818
17" Alloy Wheels	✓	×	×

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Kia's new Customer Friendly Pricing includes delivery and destination fees and all mandatory government levies. Prices do not include dealer administration fees ($399 to $699), licensing, PPSA or applicable taxes.

Offer(s) available on all new 2011/2012 models through participating dealers to qualified customers who take delivery by April 2, 2012. Dealers may sell for less. Some conditions apply. Retailer credentials may be necessary. Offers are subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details. Vehicle images shown may include optional accessories and upgrades. All offers exclude licence, registration, insurance, applicable taxes, dealer administration fees (up to $699) and PPSA. Only on dealer stock. Dealer may be required to trade. Other lease and financing options also available. Certain restrictions may apply. *0% purchase financing is available on select 2011 and 2012 Kia models on approved credit (O.A.C.). Terms vary by model and term, see dealer for details. Financing example based on 2012 Sorento LX AT FWD (model code SR75MF) with a selling price of $28,379 financed at 0% APR for 60 months. Monthly payments equal $473 with a down payment/equivalent trade of $0. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $28,379. Delivery and destination fees ($1,650), other fees ($3.83, OMVIC fee, Kia Commitment Fee and PST, tax (where applicable) are included. License, insurance, applicable taxes, PPSA, tire recycling fee ($4.00) and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. **Don't Pay for 90 Days* on select models (90-day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing offers on select 2011 and 2012 models on approved credit (O.A.C.) 2011/2012 Sportage/Sorento/Optima/Rio excluded. No interest will accrue during the first 90 days of the finance contract. After this period, interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay the principal, interest monthly over the term of the contract. Special offer available on 2012 Rio5 (model code RP754E) 2012 Optima LX A/T (OPS47C) & 2012 Sorento LX AWD (SR54CC) at participating dealers. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $1,855, $154 OMVIC fee, $250 lease service fee and a lease savings (lease credit) of $500 [$0] for 48 months at 1.9/2.9% APR with $1,850 [$2,675] down payment. Total lease obligation is $20,980 [$15,955]. Cost to borrow is $3,356 [$2,555]. Other taxes, registration, insurance, licensing and dealer administration fees ($499) are excluded. Total savings for 2012 Kia Sorento LX AT (SR75MF) is $1,500 and is available on purchase financing only on approved credit (O.A.C.). Loan savings varies by model and trim

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It won't be pretty. It won't be easy. But we *will* succeed.

We'll make difficult decisions and tough choices.

Sacrifices will be made.

But then who among us didn't grow up hearing of the hardships and sacrifices our parents and grandparents made to create a better life for us.

Well, now it's *our* turn.

Time for our generation to stand up and take action.

We will do whatever it takes to protect the gains we've made in our schools and our health care.

We'll do whatever we need to do to preserve what is so very special about this place.

And we'll do it together. Because that's the way we do things around here. Together.

We can do this. We're Ontario.

Dalton McGuinty
Premier of Ontario

Dalton_McGuinty

PremierMcGuinty

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